

Public Libraries

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Competence in Book Buying¹

Annie A. Pollard, Public library, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Buying in the business world has attained quite a degree of efficiency. Buying experts say that the whole sum and substance of competence in buying is to know values and, therefore, a buyer must know:

- 1) Intrinsic worth
- 2) Time worth
- 3) Local worth
- 4) Process and cost of production
- 5) The selling market
- 6) The buying market

These terse phrases used in the business world may be shifted very easily to apply to a librarian's problems.

There are certain goods which one never makes a mistake in buying—all wool and a yard wide, honestly made, of good material, they have been sold for years and always given satisfaction. They have intrinsic worth.

So there are certain books of this sort, possibly written many decades or centuries ago. They give as much satisfaction and make as much of an appeal as when they were first written. They are the live books, "written right." They are sincere with the unmistakable stamp of authenticity. As Dr Putnam has said, "Whatever the authentic soul of man has touched with her immortalizing finger is as fresh and fair today as it was in the time of the world's grey fathers." These are the books that have survived and will survive.

It matters not whether they are Roosevelt's pigskin library which he selected for his African trip, or Cannon Farrar's 12 which he said he would snatch first

out of the flames were all the world ablaze; or Sir John Lubbock's 100 best books; or Davenport's best 50 books; or James Baldwin's great works of 25 authors; or Dr Charles W. Eliot's Five-foot library, which he believes is a liberal education for any man—the verdict of the world is pretty much the same that the Bible, Homer, Virgil, Dante, Milton, Shakespeare, Spencer and many others that have joined the throng right along down the centuries to our times, are books of intrinsic worth and, therefore, the librarian must know those of "intrinsic worth."

In the world of merchandise, some goods must be kept in stock that have only temporary value—Time worth. It would not be good policy for a dealer to offer only high priced standard goods when the buyer wants something for temporary use only. It would be foolish for him to say, "I will not keep boys' clothing. Boys grow so fast. They might as well buy men's suits and grow into them."

It would be equally foolish for a merchant to say, "The standard goods are the heavy, warm ones. The hot weather lasts so short a time in Michigan. It won't pay to have a stock of thin goods."

So, in libraries, it would be equally short-sighted to say, "The interest in these books is only a passing phase. We will not buy them." For who knows where that interest may lead?

A library must necessarily buy some books that the people will outgrow and get beyond. Books of science and the industrial arts are of this sort. Research and invention sometimes sweep aside in one night all that has before been known.

¹Introduction to lessons in book selection and book ordering in Training class, Public library, Grand Rapids, Mich.

We must buy the latest that we can get. For instance, we must have the latest on radio. Such books have Time worth.

Certain novels champion movements that powerfully affect society at the moment. They are demanded although they may be out-of-date as soon as the wave passes. For instance, the Hon. Peter Sterling depicted a phase of life in New York politics and was widely read 20 years ago. This particular book is well written and has a certain value today. But in the main, such novels have Time worth.

Listen to a list of best sellers as given in the *Bookman* 20 years ago, from 1899-1900, in their respective order:

- 1) Westcott, David Harum
- 2) Caskoden, When knighthood was in flower
- 3) Churchill, Richard Carvel
- 4) { Kipling, The Day's work
- { Watts-Dunton, Aylwin
- 5) Whiteing, No. 5, John Street
- 6) { Frederic, The Market place
- { Ford, Janice Meredith

How many of these have retained their fair favor with readers? How many of them do we buy in large quantities now?

Books on the Great War may be said to have Time worth, for at that time it was impossible to guess which would live and which would not. We needed them for immediate use. It is probable that they were inaccurate and short-sighted, but they were the best we had up to that time. Selection was somewhat difficult for, as was said, "The roar of guns at the trenches was almost equalled by the roar of printing presses behind them."

I was at the meeting of the American historical association immediately after the war. A group of history professors were discussing histories of the war. The first suggestion was for a committee to plan for a great coöperative history such as the Cambridge history. The chairman asserted that the big sets which had already been issued, such as Collier's, New York Times and others, were valueless. I sat depressed. Wait for another Cambridge! Not be able to use what we had! What shall we do? Then the drift of discussion changed. Another professor arose who felt the necessity of infor-

mation for today. He said he had been teaching war courses since 1914. He was forced to it by the eagerness of his students and he welcomed it as an aid to historical-mindedness. Such eagerness, in all his years of teaching, he never before had seen. He used reports in newspapers and whatever he could get hold of. Others supported him, saying that their classes were not satisfied to have history end with 1914.

Thus is shown the necessity of librarians buying books that have Time worth and being able to recognize that it is Time worth and must be replaced later by others of Intrinsic worth.

Local worth

In this world of business, fitness to a locality is considered in stocking up a store. Snow shoes may not be found in the shops of New Orleans although those of Marquette may be full of them. Such goods may be said to have Local worth.

In our library, this is exemplified by the Michigan collection. Many of the books and pamphlets we treasure highly in this room are absolutely nil when it comes to Intrinsic worth, but they represent literary or other effort in Grand Rapids in early days and we may say that they have Local worth.

The books of our furniture collection have Local worth. They have Intrinsic worth also, belonging to the fine arts. But in a great furniture manufacturing city such as Grand Rapids they have especial Local worth.

Now then, these three—Intrinsic worth, Time worth, Local worth—may be translated into library parlance and read:

Learn to evaluate a book, being able to distinguish between those whose worth is intrinsic and lasting and those whose worth is temporary and local.

With nearly 400,000 books published during the last 20 years in America and England alone, and millions in all the world before that, the poor librarian would be drowned in a sea of ink trying to make evaluations were it not for the valuable aids he has on every hand in book selection.

However, to rely entirely upon these and not to be able to judge one's self of the merits of books indicates a machine-like individual and not a book-lover or a true librarian. If we have always read books and been in a home atmosphere where everyone reads and talks about books, we find that we instinctively judge and evaluate. The librarian who has had such a beginning finds that she is on the right road to effective book selection.

Reduced to lowest terms, the buyer's admonition—"Know values"—comes to the librarian as: "Learn to judge a book."

Process and cost of production

A good furniture salesman can tell all about the material in a desk. Solid or veneered; the finish, the mechanism. Are the various devices patented? He knows all about the process and cost of production and its relation to the finished product.

So a librarian should know how books are printed and bound. The qualities of book paper and binding materials. Something about illustrations and their relative values. Is a half-tone cheaper than a copper engraving? Why are some little books more costly than large ones? She should know something of the process and cost of production and have an idea of what is reasonable commercial value in a book. And this translated into library phraseology is:

"Learn how a book is made, what materials are in it, and its money value."

The selling market

The fifth admonition is to know the selling market. The commercial salesman knows the manufacturers, what kind of goods they get out and their business reputations. He also knows the retailers.

So a librarian should know the book-selling market, consisting of the publisher, the dealer—local, foreign and second-hand—and the subscription agent.

The publisher—the United States had a golden age of publishers when the Putnams, Appletons, Harpers and Scribners were in their prime. It is said, "There was an honor in their dealings seldom found equalled. They were incapable of

petty and ostentatious things. It was friendly coöperation and mutual concession rather than barbarous competition. They would not go for another's author any more than for his watch. It is said of G. P. Putnam that he drew around him men who had something to say. James Brown of Little, Brown & Company was able to ascertain contents without cutting the pages. James T. Fields was a gentleman and a scholar. Daniel Macmillan developed a career as noble as it was sincere. George Appleton was a warm-hearted man with a cold exterior. William H. Appleton, a financial magnate."

There were four Harper brothers—James, John, Fletcher and Wesley. A gentleman once asked, "Which of you is Harper and which the Brothers?" and was answered, "Any one is Harper and the rest are the Brothers."

It is a great help to a librarian to know who publishers are and what ideals dominate them. Merely money is it, or do they feel that they are arbiters of public taste and morals? A salesman for a great publishing house once told me that his firm made it its aim never to publish a book which a public library could not circulate.

Publishers are not to be found in every town, but book dealers are apt to be. A study of the business methods of bookstores is of value to librarians. A book dealer is careful not to overload with stock that will not sell, so a librarian can learn a lesson about overstocking with one subject and understocking another; overloading with light literature (Time worth) and expensive and little used subscription books.

A librarian can visit the bookstores and find out what people are buying. This will serve as some index to their needs.

The foreign dealer keeps one in touch with foreign publications. In this library we have had much help from foreign dealers, especially in buying our Holland books. One may learn courtesy from many foreign dealers. Correspondence with them is a delightful part of doing one's own importing.

To be in touch with second-hand dealers who will notify the library of bargains is a great advantage.

The subscription agent, himself, has a place, if not in the librarian's affection, in his attention. There are agents and agents. As one man expressed to us, "There is a difference between a book agent and a book man." Many great works have been sold in no other way, at least at first. A test in examining a subscription book is to go for some subject in it that you know and see whether it is accurate, for instance, an article on the city where you live. You will be able to judge if accurately done.

One finds all sorts of standards among publishers and dealers, but that does not alter the fact that the library as a buyer should have only the highest standard, that the ethics of the library should be those of an honorable individual. It should realize that it is a public trust that the people have given to it and that the people's money should not be wantonly wasted or ignorantly spent. Also that sentimentality has no place, for instance, when a college boy comes in with a subscription book to help him pay his way.

Know the selling market, then, we will transpose into "know the people who are publishing and selling books and their methods and aims and study and apply selling methods in a library," or more concisely:

"Get acquainted with publishers and booksellers and apply business sense in the buying of books for the library."

The buying market

What corresponds to the buying market in the library? The people who borrow books, the community the library serves. The more we know about our community, the wiser will be our selection of books. The dry goods merchant does not buy haphazard—street suits, bathing suits, novelties—he knows his trade and calculates. Some book dealers even keep a card index of readers. When a new book is published on agriculture, he knows that Mr. A. is interested in agriculture and sends him a notice of this book.

What is the ordinary peaceful routine of things that people of any locality are likely to be engaged in and want books to help in doing? How can we find out ahead what people are likely to want to read about? By reading the newspapers, with our minds partly on the library, we learn what people are likely to be interested in. Attending all kinds of religious associations, political meetings, civic gatherings, and labor meetings, is valuable also, helping a librarian to know what is going on in people's minds and what they will want to read about. A survey of the community by nationalities, denominations, schools and other educational institutions, charitable and philanthropic organizations will give accurate knowledge. A librarian may be a shrewd anticipator with prophetic instinct, but one should have accurate knowledge also.

A librarian needs to do more than respond to the immediate need of the readers. He must remember that although some of his books only have Time worth, yet the bulk of them must have Intrinsic value and that in his buying he is building a foundation of reading material that will stand for lasting service.

Narrowness or personal bias should have no place with a librarian—rather, moderation and broad toleration, intelligent sympathy and understanding of human nature and its problems. But carelessness should not be mistaken for broad toleration nor prejudice for moderation.

These then—the knowledge of the values of books; of how they are made and their cost; of the people who publish and sell them, and of the community that reads them—are the things a librarian must know before attaining competence in buying. Who shall say which, in competent buying, is the greatest of these? Knowledge of the values of books or knowledge of the people who read them? Can we really separate one from the other? Are they not all inter-related? Can we not say, rather, that the sum and substance of competence in book buying is to enlist all possible knowledge of the values of books in the service of the community.

A Poetry Circle as a Substitute for the Story Hour¹

Quantrille McClung, librarian, Park Hill branch, Denver, Col.

For a long time I had been dissatisfied with the story hour as it figured in my experience. In our city, everyone seemed to be telling stories; the libraries told stories and so did the churches; the women's clubs gathered groups of children and told them stories; classes in story-telling became a fad and the students told stories; there were even stories in the department stores! The purpose for which the library story hour had been designed—to introduce children to fine literature—was no longer possible of attainment because the children had come to look upon it as a mere entertainment and their contact with the moving pictures had made the finest stories seem dull and uninteresting.

Along with my feeling of dissatisfaction had been developing the desire to use poetry as a substitute for the story hour, but numerous attempts to read poetry to children had met with no success. It was a long time before the opportunity came to try out my idea but, finally, in a community where the residents had had more educational advantages than some, I found two school teachers who were doing more than usual with poetry in the classroom and who regretted not being able to give more time to it. This seemed to be the opening for which I was waiting and I began immediately to form in my mind an elaborate plan for the reading and study of poetry with some of our younger patrons during the coming winter. But on the first day enough children came together to organize a Poetry circle, we found that no such program was necessary. By noting the individual response to the poems which were read and the topics which seemed to be of interest, the librarian was convinced that the best method to follow was that of letting fancy have its way; to talk about anything in connection with poetry that happened to come to the surface and let the

schools take care of the formal instruction. This method leads the children to express themselves freely and insures our securing all the joy we should have from the reading of poetry. Of what avail is the knowledge of poetry if we cannot find joy in reading it?

Our practice was to discuss various subjects which interested us, choose the one we wanted for the next meeting and bring in poems on that subject. The children usually chose verses by poets they had studied in school, leaving to the librarian the happy privilege of introducing them to new voices. We talked about the poems and what they suggested to us, being especially pleased when they expressed something we had felt or experienced ourselves. We learned that we could find poetry and romance in every circumstance of our lives, no matter how commonplace, if only our eyes were opened to perceive the glory.

Unfamiliar words and allusions were searched out and explained. We talked about the lives of the writers and contributed any little bits of information we might have about them, often displaying pictures illustrative of the verses read as well as portraits of the verse makers. At times, names of poets were assigned to different members of the circle to look up, and the material presented as a result was carefully considered with a view to discovering the relation between the events of a poet's life and the kind of verse produced. It pleased us to feel there were reasons why poets chose certain subjects and if we could find a hidden meaning in any poem, such as Longfellow's *Divinia Commedia*, we were elated because it made us realize that we were doing something with our minds. We studied and discussed rhythms and meters, finding that most of our circle preferred the older, more definite forms to the free verse of our day. Quick as the children were to recognize the beauty of the newer types, they loved better the

¹Read before meeting of Colorado library association, September 11, 1924.

familiar cadences of the accepted forms, sensing the kinship of poetry to her sister arts—music and the dance.

Sometimes we talked about the pictures and objects in the room, and the value of this exercise as a stimulus to the imagination was proved when the original poems were brought in. We spent two afternoons on original verse, and while the results were meager, some of the group made a good beginning. One girl produced a charming poem suggested to her by a miniature Chinese temple bell.

From a Chinese temple

In the far-off land of Mandarins,
Where the cherry blossoms grow,
In a quaint old Buddhist temple
Grey-robed priests pace to and fro.

As the sun in all its glory
Sinks behind a purple cloud,
From the temple's carved doorway
Forth a bell peals, clear and loud.

And the priests with solemn chanting,
Bearing incense rare and sweet,
Murm'ring, "Om manipadme hum,"
Lay their gifts at Buddha's feet.

She had often written little rhymes but this was her first real poem. Another girl conceived a lovely idea for a poem after we had talked about an old Benedictine bottle but she has not been able to put it into good shape yet. Her love of Riley is plainly seen in this:

Mornin'

The mornin' is a-goin',
An' you mussen waste your time,
For the early rooster's crowin',
An' he's tellin' me and mine
That it's time to be a-workin'
In the fields an' roun' the brooks,
For the harvest day's a-comin',
It's already in the nooks.

The author of "From a Chinese temple" also produced the following poem which came into being directly after being introduced to Alfred Noyes. From him, evidently, came the impulse to pour out what had long been in her mind.

Sea talk

I often think if I could learn
The language of the sea,
Of all the lovely, wondrous tales
Each wave could tell to me.

I'd hear of silver moonbeams cast
On the shifting golden sands,
Of jeweled isles in Southern seas—
Visions of fairylands.

I'd hear of curious Chinese junks
On the Sea of Many Typhoons;
I'd hear the weird old lullabys
The Chinese mother croons.

I'd learn the marvelous secret
Of the snows of Fuji San;
I'd glimpse the graceful temples
From a delicate, gay sampan.

I'd hear of pond'rous elephants
Bearing rajahs proud and great,
Marching in solemn procession
To an Oriental fête.

All of these things and many more
Could each wave tell to me,
If only I could really learn
The language of the sea.

Some people are greatly opposed to the production of verse by children and do not wish to have any attention paid to it, but if a child feels the impulse, why should he or she not be encouraged and permitted the pleasure that comes with creation? It may be that none of our group will ever become a writer, but what of that? Life will ever be richer for the effort that has been made and who knows what fruit the future may bear? Each of us, in looking back over our younger days, can see where some experience, some influence scarcely noticed then is now flowering in our daily activities.

A careful record was kept of each poem read, the name of the author and the name of the reader as well as the topics assigned for reference. The original poems have all been preserved therein. You would never dream, to look at this account of our meetings, what fragments of rainbows, what laughter of flowers, what starshine and honey dew are hidden between its dull, black covers; what a record it is of hours of pure joy. Some of our girls made their own notebooks and our chief versemaker, a descendant of English sea-rovers, made a scrapbook of sea poems and pictures.

At times, the librarian, greatly daring, read experimentally such poems as "In the cool of the evening" by Alfred Noyes, or "I love all beauteous things" by Robert Bridges, or "The secret of the woods" by Richard Le Gallienne. The response to the spiritual appeal was marked, if not

always vocal. Nothing seemed too fine or too subtle for these school girls.

Now and then we had special guests who read and talked for our pleasure. One woman who writes verse told us about her girlhood and how she had first come to care for poetry. Another read a number of her own poems and used them to illustrate various principles of poetry. We were so fortunate as to number among our friends a woman of unusual gifts and attainments as a reader who gave us several delightful afternoons, moving us to tears and to laughter and proving to our satisfaction the essential truth of some of our theories, one of which was that certain kinds of poetry, Henry Van Dyke's "Dance-Music," for instance, if properly declaimed, might serve to dance to as well as any instrument. Another was that the diction and rhythm of some verses are so exceedingly beautiful that, when properly read, it would give pleasure even to those who might not understand the language. We found, on the first afternoon of this kind, that our girls found it impossible to express themselves in the presence of a visitor, so, after that, our guests were always asked to retire as soon as the program was finished that the audience might feel perfectly free to disclose what was in their minds.

Naturally, all of this meant an increased use of the books of poetry in the library, both adult and juvenile, as well as biography, the encyclopedias and the dictionary. Frequently volumes from the home library appeared in the circle in company with time-worn scrapbooks, demonstrating the relation of home and public libraries. Correct pronunciation was insisted upon as well as reading aloud at home in order to improve one's reading in public.

The assistance of the teachers mentioned before was invaluable in getting together those who were interested in the venture, for the children in our community have so many demands upon their time it requires daily pressure such as only a teacher can give to make an impression. In all, we touched about 35

girls, a goodly number in the circumstances. We feel that it is better to touch a few in a definite way than to attempt to reach a large number and never know whether one's efforts have been in vain or not. In the old days, when the story hour was well attended, the crowds were so large as to disrupt discipline for an entire afternoon; or so small that the divergence in ages made it impossible to tell stories suited to all. The greatest advantage of the Poetry circle is that the members do the work and the librarian is not burdened with a great deal of preparation. Anyone who truly loves poetry has been preparing all through life. My personal anthology, now in its third volume, has proved invaluable, providing, as it does, an abundance of material, with one's favorites always at hand.

We used the staff room for our meetings because it was much more pleasant than the auditorium and its smaller size insured a feeling of intimacy that was helpful. The close contact with the girls has been a source of great pleasure, affording many opportunities for direct influence and creating beyond the walls of the building a greater interest in the library.

Now for a final word that does not have to do directly with the Poetry circle. All of us, without a doubt, look forward to the day when we can retire from active service and do the things which we have not time for now but which are essential to our enjoyment of life. Unless, however, the municipalities to which we give our services undergo a decided change of heart and reward us with the wherewithal of sustaining that happy leisure, I greatly fear that most of us will have to go on working until, like a certain famous vehicle, we fall to pieces from old age.

Then why not seek and find in the present those hours of joy we covet? We all plan for special activities in connection with our work. Why not choose for ours those that will insure us personal pleasure? If there is anything you especially love and enjoy, endeavor to bring it into your every day world. That which you love, you can cause others to love,

and there is not an interest which people like ourselves may have that cannot be brought into direct connection with books. There is not a single adventure of the spirit which someone will not be glad to share with you. It may be one waits even

now upon your doorstep, longing for an invitation to fare forth into the fields of fancy with you as a guide. Then do not hesitate to secure for yourself your hour of ecstasy; to give to others the key to the land of enchantment.

In the Letter Box

A Word of Commendation

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

References to foreign lists in the department, *Interesting Things in Print*, have been found very useful.

The Committee on work with new Americans wishes to urge more librarians making even one-page lists of recommended books in foreign languages, or lists for adult beginners in learning English, to send a copy to PUBLIC LIBRARIES for notice in this department.

Lists of books suitable for library use with foreign-born laborers, both men and women, are especially valuable and worth sharing with others concerned with this phase of library work.

EDNA PHILLIPS, chairman
Committee on work with new Americans
Massachusetts library club

Thanks Are Tendered

A letter from the Carrs in regard to the presentation of the gift to them at Saratoga says:

As we look upon our beautiful "cup of joy," with its golden lining of A. L. A. friendships, we desire again to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation thru you to each and every one of our fellow members for this evidence of their kindly thoughts of the two old-time members who are now nearing the eventide of life.

It certainly was a genuine surprise and proves that both men and women can keep a secret.

Our New England consciences keep us humble with the knowledge that we have done so little to deserve this tribute, yet we are deeply touched and happy in spite of the generations of New England repression of expression of sentiment.

With renewed thanks, we are most sincerely and cordially yours,

HENRY JAMES CARR
D. EDITH WALLBRIDGE CARR

A Helpful History List

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I have found an excellent list entitled Books for historical reading in schools, in the *Historical Outlook* for October, 1924. This magazine is published by the McKinley Publishing Company, Philadelphia.

The list gives the first 10 books to buy in each main branch of history, with an additional list of desirable books. It represents a great deal of work in getting votes from teachers and comparing historical lists already published. The subtitle reads, "A report by joint committees of the New England History teachers' association, the History teachers' association of the Middle states and Maryland, and the Teachers' section of the Mississippi Valley historical association."

It seemed to me both school librarians and public librarians would find it useful. I shall, of course, use it in compiling our Standard catalog for high schools. Single copies of the magazine cost 25 cents.

ZAIDEE BROWN
Editor

Distribution

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Thanks for the notice of our distribution of local pamphlets and of my *List of Periodicals*. This latter seems to me to be something that we long wanted and I had an opportunity to get it done by using the assistance of the American antiquarian society, which published it in their transactions. A few more titles have turned up and I will get them together and publish them shortly.

This question of distribution seems rather an important point in the work of

the library which does not limit itself to simple, local needs. Recently an old afternoon newspaper secured a very fine new location in a building erected for a commercial house which had needed and provided very strong flooring, admirably suitable for a newspaper printing office. The present publisher bought the paper when it had a comparatively small circulation and has made a fortune. On moving into the new building, he published a special number containing a page article on the history of the *Daily States* which reaches back to Reconstruction time and has had several editors of great talent. Habits of economy forced on newspapers by the scarcity of paper during the war induces the early return to the paper mill of surplus copies of the daily edition, so that after a few months it is impossible to find a back issue. The publisher has supplied to the library a number of the sheets containing the valuable history of his paper. I have sent copies to those libraries which specialize on the history of journalism. We shall be glad to have applications from librarians and others interested for the remaining copies.

It is a long while since we have met but I still remember with pleasure your lively interest in all library matters.

WILLIAM BEER
Librarian

Howard memorial library
New Orleans, La.

A Mistaken Notion

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

In the June number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES is printed a letter from Miss Miriam Carey of Minnesota, pleading for books for the South Dakota tuberculosis sanitarium at Custer. This is absurd, kindly meant as it doubtless was.

We were able to make our boast two years ago that we no longer had a town in the state of more than 2000 people without a public library. We are now working for county libraries. We have three established and expect to have as many more in operation within the next year. And from legislatures "having no knowledge of nor interest in libraries" we

have secured what some people in other states tell us are the best and broadest library laws passed by any state in the union.

The Custer sanitarium is located in the most beautiful part of the Black Hills, the home of the Homestake mine and the residence of many thousands of cultured book-loving, *book-owning* people. It is estimated by the State department of agriculture that 250,000 tourists visited this section last year. The sanitarium is one of the most attractive institutions of the sort which I have ever visited and is most delightful in setting, environment and atmosphere. To speak of its patients as being "stranded far from civilization" is amusing, to say the least.

LEORA J. LEWIS
Pierre, S. D. State field librarian

A Busy Lady

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

We found the following memorandum in one of the library books. It is really too good to keep, so I am passing it on. Considering the number of errands the woman had on her mind, I do not wonder that she had to write them down.

M. A. E.

Go with oldest son to register at high-school.
Take younger one to be fitted with glasses.
See Milwaukee freight office about some freight.

Pay his taxes.
Call on a friend from Low Moor at Jane Lamb hospital.

Buy a bill of groceries at Mooney's.
Buy some electric bulbs.
See the sexton at Springdale about the cemetery lot.

Pay a bill at Towle and Hypes.
Take on another \$1000 insurance on his house.

The following note from Mrs Henry J. Carr, Scranton, Pa., will hardly bow down the heart or chill the souls of those who recall certain experiences at Hotel Kaaterskill in 1913:

Hotel Kaaterskill, located near Haines Falls, N. Y., in the Catskill mountains and said to be the largest mountain hotel in the world, was destroyed by fire in September. The loss is estimated at more than \$750,000.

Monthly—Except August
and September

Public Libraries

216 W. Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois

M. E. Ahern, Editor

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Current single number - - - -	35 cents
Five copies to one library - - -	\$12 a year	Foreign subscriptions - - - -	\$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under.

In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

Value of Library Meetings

THE month of October was occupied almost from start to finish with library meetings in various parts of the country, reviewing work of the past year and laying plans for the coming months for bringing more closely to the lives of the various communities the pleasure and power of books and printed material that are gathered into libraries of various kinds.

It has long been an accepted truth that the circulation of books from libraries in itself is not a criterion of the service of books. People may read too much, just as they may eat too much. One book pushing out the remembrance and effectiveness of another, haphazard reading may bring on mental dyspepsia. It may be thought of as gratifying progress—that one hears less about numbers of books in circulation and more about occasions where books prove useful and of real accomplishment in the mental stimu-

lus that has been brought about by means of the printed page.

The coming together of those engaged in the same line of work furnishes occasion for inspiration, solidarity of interest and clearing of vision that can but be of aid in every way.

An editorial writer in a newspaper of a city where a library meeting was recently held, with a keen vision of what a library meeting may mean, has set forth its purpose as clearly as a librarian himself might:

The annual conventions of the library people are things which add many per cent to their enthusiasm and efficiency. By meeting and mingling for a few days with others of like occupation, and whose problems are identical, the individual librarian catches the spirit of comradeship and again begins to feel that his or her work is after all worth while and that he or she is a part, and an important part, of the community life. The fact that the library performs a striking part in the education of people whose sole source of information it is, becomes again the realization of the hard working librarian who comes up out of the valley

of year-round toil to ascend this mountain top of inspiration.

That there are at every meeting, unfortunately, some—they are generally too much in evidence—whose daily walk and conversation, not to mention evening

peregrinations, cast a doubt as to whether they really sense the place and purpose of their being there, is to be regretted, but on the whole a live meeting is worth much in every way to those who attend.

Children's Book Week

AGAIN the turn of the year has brought Children's book week and all over the country preparations are being made in the library for impressing on young readers the importance of making books their friends and making friends with books.

Dr Henry Seidel Canby, in his address at the recent Lake Placid conference of the New York library association, stressed the importance of acquainting Americans with the literature of their ancestors. This is a new note in library service and there is something to think about in the idea. For a long while it has been stressed that children generally should be made to realize the contributions of the various races that are mingling to make the American people—that from Italy, from Greece, from Germany, from Scandinavia, from Russia, from Southeastern Europe, come art, music, science, color, efficiency in and apprecia-

tion of all these, but as to the definite contribution in a general way of the Americans of many years' standing not much has been said. Dr Canby's suggestion is a good one and in addition to mentioning the later contributions in literature, Children's book week might well bring study and discussion of the contributions of the British Isles, France and Spain, from which countries the streams of population started so early that sometimes, they are lost sight of in the contemplation of later acquisitions.

Dr E. C. Richardson, Miss Cornelia Marvin and others who have recently been in Spain, are enthusiastic over what they have seen there in the matter of library book service to children. One doesn't hear in this country so much of that and it might be well to give some part of Children's book week to the contemplation of these new ideas of the contributions of older Americans.

Man's Joy in His Labor

AN interesting group of earnest craftsmen, library bookbinders, met as part of the convention of the Employing bookbinders of America held in Chicago, October 15-17. The entire convention was made up of a most impressive group of live business men. A note of remarkable interest was that which proclaimed that for the most part those in attendance were descended from a line of bookbinders.

While of course, naturally and very properly, matters relating to the business side of their craft engaged the attention of the general sessions, the program of the library bookbinders' group, as is witnessed by the proceedings (*See p. 469*), dealt entirely with the business of binding books for libraries. It was a session that would have given interest and ideas to library workers charged with binding in library service, though but few such

were present. As the various speakers talked, one perceived a note of pride in good work and the desire for approval of good craftsmanship, and laying aside money consideration, there was expressed throughout an earnest desire for better understanding between binders and librarians.

The few present representing the library craft were unanimous in the feeling that librarians would enjoy, perhaps be benefited in hearing the expressions of idealism and business reasons which were set forth by the various speakers. The urge of Mr G. B. Van Deene, chairman of the section, that bookbinders keep in close touch with libraries as a matter of furnishing excellence for their craft, the idealism set forth by Mr Frank M. Bar-

nard of Boston as a necessary factor in the producing of what Morris called "man's joy in his labor," the coöperative spirit of Mr W. B. Hammill of Louisville, Ky., struck the same quality of note that one hears in the expression of that indefinable something we call library spirit among earnest librarians. More than one librarian present expressed the wish that a representative of the library bookbinders might be invited to a place on the general program of the A. L. A., to the benefit of its members.

One could but conclude in listening to the addresses of the various speakers that here, as elsewhere in the world, the thing to be most often regretted is the lack of understanding between the parties involved in transactions of mutual interest.

A. L. A. Meeting Place for 1925

NOTICE has been sent out from A. L. A. headquarters to the effect that the next annual conference of the association will be held in Seattle, Wash., in June, 1925, provided satisfactory arrangements can be concluded by the Executive board.

This announcement will strike the membership of the association in various ways. There are those who express themselves as "I have never been to the Northwest and it will be such a fine chance to go to Alaska." There are others who say, "The scenery in that part of the country is the finest in the world. I shall combine my vacation with the time allowed for attending A. L. A." There are others who say, "With the present high cost of railroad transportation, A. L. A. will have to struggle along without my presence this year." One from down East says, "Well, last year's president didn't give us a look in on Providence—

how does he expect us to follow him to Seattle?"

These attitudes of mind may have some value or none at all, but the fact still remains that the question of trying to have a meeting of A. L. A. in a large city has more than one side to it. Phases of last year's struggle with regard to this would suggest that PUBLIC LIBRARIES not continue the struggle. At the same time, there is no reason why the matter should not be looked at from a professional standpoint as well as from the desires expressed in the opinions quoted above.

Why should the A. L. A. hold its annual meeting in the far Northwest? There is no other locality in the country that has proportionately the large number of active, progressive, well-informed and successful library workers found in the Northwest. The material development of library service is represented by equipment and service to the farthest degree

that is commensurate with present means available for development of the work. Washington, Oregon and California can not be said to be in need of the impulse that would come from such a meeting. Large areas sparsely populated in the territory to the east of these states are in need of many things which the farming communities of which they are made up have scant means for providing, and the question of both people to serve and equipment for serving them must stand in abeyance until a more prosperous era.

It will have been only 10 years since A. L. A. held its last meeting on the Pacific Coast, preceded by one five or six years before, and that preceded by the Portland meeting in 1905. A meeting at Colorado Springs, more than half way to the Pacific Coast, was held in 1920. Such a record does not seem to show that in proportion to its representation in the A. L. A. the Pacific Coast has been overlooked in providing occasions of inspirational opportunity for the far Northwest regions.

A number of visitors to A. L. A. at Saratoga from the Southeast were minded to ask for a meeting of A. L. A. in Asheville, N. C., or in some place near the rapidly developing library spirit of that region. There are literally hundreds of libraries starting up with ambitious and able workers both on boards of trustees and within the library buildings who have not been able to attend a library meeting since the passing of what might be termed the lean years of the Southland. If Louisville be eliminated as a southern city—and it well might be—A. L. A. has not gone to the Southeast since 1907. Practically an entirely new regime has sprung up in library service in that time and librarians of that region are carrying

a double load not only in administering and developing many fine library activities that are extant in that region, but carry also the problem of interpreting to their locality the new democracy that is the foundation of genuine library service.

It might be possible that the inclination of very many toward any region than the city of Seattle—a wonderful place in itself, desirable for anything except a library meeting—might be evolved from the saving clause, "provided satisfactory arrangements can be concluded." The strong opinion, properly expressed, of many members of the association might make it clear that satisfactory arrangements for going to Seattle ought not to be concluded—a mere suggestion.

This journal has no desire to form the habit of objecting to proposed localities for A. L. A. meetings, but it is a well known fact in psychology and philosophy that one repetition may not be called forming a habit.

The question might well come up for discussion at the Midwinter meeting with suggestions for gathering some place where the greater part of the membership would not have to make so expensive a journey in order to attend. It would not violate precedent to wait till then for a final decision.

No city meeting of A. L. A.!

The Journal of Education for October 9 contains a strong editorial under the heading, Warning against commercializing the N. E. A. The article sets forth resolutions which were unanimously adopted by the Board of directors of the association at its Washington meeting in July. One resolution states that it is against the policy of the N. E. A., either as an association or through its departments or committees, to endorse any ma-

terial or publications outside those which are the direct product of the association. It was felt necessary to take this step because of material offered for sale which had been prepared by members of the association but with which the association itself had no connection. Then, also, other groups used stationery bearing the name of the N. E. A., virtually claiming to represent the organization. The position outlined by the resolutions is well taken.

A Busy Librarian

Whoever defined genius as "the capacity for hard work" must have had in mind the genius who was acting librarian of the Public library, Chattanooga, Tenn., during the past summer.

While playing the dual role of librarian and playwright, Adelaide Rowell won the prize play award given by the Chattanooga Little Theater committee for her one-act play, "Sam Davis." Twelve plays were submitted, many of them far above the average, but the vote of the committee was unanimous for "Sam Davis," which was founded upon the "most famous essentially dramatic historical incident in Tennessee history." Those who know Sam Davis only as the famous Tennessee scout of Civil war fame will want to know the simple, dramatic, noble figure Miss Rowell has made live for us in a play which many predict will merit national fame.

A. F.

In the year, May 1923-24, 26 nations filed and registered 207 treaties with the secretary of the League of Nations, at the request of the members of the league. Up to the present, 572 treaties have been registered. These documents are published in the *Treaty Series* of the League of Nations in their original language, with translations into French and English. Alphabetical and analytical indexes are being compiled and in these indexes particulars may be found concerning the nature of each treaty, the contracting parties which have signed it, and the position in regard to each international engagement registered.

Death's Toll

"The reaper whose name is Death" has not left untouched the field of library effort in the last several months.

Robert Gilbert Welsh, one of those rare souls that one meets unexpectedly in a modest, gentle, quiet person, finished his earthly career in the same manner in which he spent most of his life—trying to be helpful to those around him. Word has been received that Mr Welsh met his death in Bermuda, July 23, in trying to save a girl who had gone beyond her depth in an attempt to swim.

Mr Welsh was well known to librarians of 20 years ago when he had charge of the library department of Charles Scribner's Sons. He left this particular field to engage in literary work though he kept up to the close many of the friendships formed among librarians. When librarians gathered along the Atlantic coast, he was apt to be in their midst, always a welcome member in any group. His rare courtesy, keen wit and sense of humor under all circumstances gave delight to those whom he honored with his friendship.

Mr Welsh's writings, particularly his poetry, appeared in the best magazines and the spirit of his dramatic contributions to the daily press lifted them above the ordinary type of such writing. "Always a gentleman" was the universal comment among his friends, particularly the women, when one spoke of Mr Welsh. Library circles and particularly that contingent that comes in from the commercial world can ill afford to lose such a man as Mr Welsh.

The circle of Illinois librarians was grievously shocked at receiving word, at the opening of the state meeting at Bloomington, October 21, of the death of one of its distinguished and highly esteemed members, Dr Edwin Wiley, librarian of the Public library, Peoria. He had been in ill health for several months, which culminated in his death, October 20.

Dr Wiley had been librarian of the Peoria public library for two and a half years, during which time he revolutionized the situation in that institution, bring-

ing it up from far down the list of effectiveness to a position befitting the second city in Illinois. The meeting of the Illinois library association last year was held in Peoria and grief at the passing of Dr Wiley was increased by the memory of the splendid work he was doing, by his courteous and cordial reception of the association and by the promise which his high professional standards gave of helpfulness to the future library work of the state.

Dr Wiley was a native of Tennessee. He had been on the staff of the library of Harvard university and the Library of Congress, was librarian of the University of Tennessee and Vanderbilt university and later of the U. S. Naval War college at Newport, R. I., from which post he went to Peoria. He was a member of the A. L. A. and a number of learned societies, was the author of several books and a contributor to many high-class publications. He leaves a widow and two sons, to whom deep sympathy goes out from all who knew Dr Wiley.

As It Was in the Beginning

John Shaw Billings

The story of this month was to have been of one of the most distinguished members of the craft which it has been the good fortune of librarianship to claim, Dr John Shaw Billings.

It was being prepared by one who had served under him in the organization of the great New York public library system, who had held close relations with him in that work, who had served on committees with him in A. L. A. and who had a personal acquaintance reaching back to the days of his splendid work on the catalog of the U. S. Surgeon-General's office.

Before PUBLIC LIBRARIES' material was ready to print, the splendid story of the life and work of Dr Billings, prepared by Mr H. M. Lydenberg, was issued by the A. L. A. as the first volume in the *American Library Pioneer Series*. The contributor of the article intended for PUBLIC LIBRARIES immediately with-

drew the story which was to have been used, expressing an unwillingness to have the material appear at the same time. Of course there was nothing to do but comply with the strongly expressed wishes of the author notwithstanding there seemed to be a place for the proposed contribution even beside the larger and more scholarly presentation. Indeed, for that very reason, the difference in treatment in the shorter article had a value. (See p. 489.)

Dr Billings, as librarians knew him, seemed reserved, but personal acquaintance removed what was only an impression. He had much dignity, great poise and a certain manner which is common and genuine with those who have spent many years amid military limits and customs. At the same time, he was appreciative of real interest and effort; he had a high ideal in every work he attempted and was not slow to commend those who helped him attain his objective. He was kindly disposed toward the earnest student in any line. In the days of his physical vigor in library service, he saw the humor of many situations, recognized pretense at its first appearance and was not slow when he thought it fitting to puncture a bubble that passed before his vision.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES was under obligation to Dr Billings in all its work during his day of public library service and more than once received from him the sort of help that was not possible from another source. This obligation makes it the more deplorable that so short a space in these articles on the early workers in librarianship is given here to a recital of his contribution. But if the omission will send more readers to Mr Lydenberg's scholarly and more extensive recital of the work and worth of this great man in the library field, then is there compensation in the lack.

If a book comes from the heart, it will contrive to reach other hearts; all art and authorcraft are of small amount to that.—
Thomas Carlyle.

Growth of Libraries for Veterans

Several new Veterans' Bureau hospitals have been opened recently and many transfers have been made in order to get experienced librarians to organize the service. The following appointments have recently been made:

Annie Louise Craigie (Simmons), Hospital No. 96, Tupper Lake, N. Y.

Mrs Mary B. Graham, Hospital No. 94, American Lake, Wash.

Edith Hague (Ill.), Hospital No. 85, Walla Walla, Wash.

Myra Hoge, Hospital No. 24, Palo Alto, Cal.

Helen Letson, Hospital No. 64, Camp Kearney, Cal.

Sarah Lamb, Hospital No. 68, Minneapolis, Minn.

May H. Lester, Hospital No. 60, Oteen, N. C.

Mrs Everett A. Noel, Hospital No. 88, Memphis, Tenn.

Florence O'Gara, Hospital No. 98, Beacon, N. Y.

George C. Rodger, Jr., Hospital No. 32, Washington, D. C.

Mrs Katharine T. Steele, Hospital No. 53, Dwight, Ill.

Mrs Ruth K. Miller, Hospital No. 57, Knoxville, Iowa.

Margaret Wahl, Hospital No. 79, Dawson Springs, Ky.

Harriet Bosworth, Hospital No. 95, Northampton, Mass.

Professional Librarians for the Nation

Joy Elmer Morgan, editor, *Journal of the N. E. A.*, Washington, D. C.

The importance of the school library and its relations to reforms in curriculum, methods and discipline is slowly winning recognition among educational workers. Foundations for the professional training of librarians have been laid and some of the principles worked out. But the magnitude of the task is little appreciated.

If the largest dividends are to be realized on the billion and a half dollars that the nation is now spending on formal education, larger sums than are now used must be spent for informal education beyond the school and for "education by doing" within the school.

The librarian is the heart of the library, as the teacher is the heart of the school. We may well ask what it would cost to train an adequate number of professional librarians for the nation. A successful school superintendent estimates that the

economical administration of the school requires one school librarian for every 10 teachers. If we should attempt to provide one trained school librarian for each 20 teachers and an equal number of public librarians, we should have a ratio for all librarians of one librarian for every 10 teachers. It then becomes possible (taking the figures collected by the U. S. bureau of education and the Research division of the National Education Association) to calculate the number of professional librarians that would be required in each of the states and for the nation as a whole.

Roughly speaking, there are over 700,000 teachers, which would call for 70,000 librarians.* If we assume that each of these librarians would serve for a period of 10 years after graduation, there would need to be a total of more than 7000 new recruits each year. If, again, we assume that for every nine librarians holding a bachelor's degree there should be one librarian qualified for leadership through special graduate study, there would be required a class of over 700 from graduate schools of librarianship each year.

If we wish to go still further and estimate the cost of providing such training, we may assume that it will cost approximately \$1000 to provide professional instruction for each new recruit, which would mean a total cost for the nation of \$7,000,000 annually.

These figures for new recruits are the ones that would obtain were libraries adequately staffed at the present time. Since the development of both school and public libraries is largely in its beginning, the real need is much greater than these figures indicate. These are startling facts. When compared with our present facilities for training librarians, they raise the question as to whether we seriously believe in maintained intelligence on a nation-wide scale. The figures are crude. They are based on assumptions to which there may be occasional exceptions. But they reveal in a general way the urgent need of a greatly expanded program of library training. The chart published herewith shows the figures for each of the various states.

Public Libraries

465

Number of professional librarians required for the Nation and cost of their training

STATES—	Number of teachers in 1922	Number of librarians needed in:			New library recruits needed each year			Cost of special training at \$1000 each
		Public school	Public library	Total	Bachelor's degree	Graduate degree	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
United States.....	705,499	35,275	35,275	70,550	6,350	705	7,055	\$7,055,000
Alabama	13,849	692	693	1,385	125	14	139	139,000
Arizona	2,152	107	108	215	20	2	22	22,000
Arkansas	9,200	460	460	920	83	9	92	92,000
California	22,132	1,107	1,106	2,213	199	22	221	221,000
Colorado	8,977	449	449	898	81	9	90	90,000
Connecticut	7,828	392	391	783	70	8	78	78,000
Delaware	1,263	63	63	126	12	1	13	13,000
Dist. of Col.	2,224	111	111	222	20	2	22	22,000
Florida	6,742	337	337	674	60	7	67	67,000
Georgia	16,344	817	818	1,635	148	16	164	164,000
Idaho	4,389	220	219	439	39	5	44	44,000
Illinois	39,304	1,965	1,965	3,930	353	40	393	393,000
Indiana	18,143	907	907	1,814	163	18	181	181,000
Iowa	23,832	1,192	1,191	2,383	214	24	238	238,000
Kansas	18,100	905	905	1,810	163	18	181	181,000
Kentucky	13,891	694	695	1,389	125	14	139	139,000
Louisiana	10,371	519	518	1,037	94	10	104	104,000
Maine	6,118	306	306	612	55	6	61	61,000
Maryland	7,343	367	367	734	66	7	73	73,000
Massachusetts	20,874	1,044	1,044	2,088	188	21	209	209,000
Michigan	23,811	1,190	1,191	2,381	214	24	238	238,000
Minnesota	20,476	1,024	1,024	2,048	184	21	205	205,000
Mississippi	14,854	743	743	1,486	134	15	149	149,000
Missouri	22,393	1,120	1,119	2,239	202	22	224	224,000
Montana	6,096	305	305	610	55	6	61	61,000
Nebraska	13,995	700	700	1,400	126	14	140	140,000
Nevada	714	36	36	72	6	1	7	7,000
New Hampshire....	2,722	136	136	272	24	3	27	27,000
New Jersey	18,218	911	911	1,822	164	18	182	182,000
New Mexico	2,664	133	133	266	24	3	27	27,000
New York	58,246	2,913	2,912	5,825	525	58	583	583,000
North Carolina....	19,793	989	990	1,979	178	20	198	198,000
North Dakota....	8,261	413	413	826	75	8	83	83,000
Ohio	35,740	1,787	1,787	3,574	321	36	357	357,000
Oklahoma	17,233	862	861	1,723	155	17	172	172,000
Oregon	6,900	345	345	690	62	7	69	69,000
Pennsylvania	46,928	2,346	2,347	4,693	422	47	469	469,000
Rhode Island	3,013	150	151	301	27	3	30	30,000
South Carolina....	10,861	543	543	1,086	98	11	109	109,000
South Dakota....	7,765	388	388	776	70	8	78	78,000
Tennessee	14,841	742	742	1,484	133	15	148	148,000
Texas	32,137	1,607	1,607	3,214	289	32	321	321,000
Utah	3,997	200	200	400	36	4	40	40,000
Vermont	2,899	145	145	290	26	3	29	29,000
Virginia	15,621	781	781	1,562	141	15	156	156,000
Washington	9,200	460	460	920	83	9	92	92,000
West Virginia....	12,869	644	643	1,287	116	13	129	129,000
Wisconsin	17,672	883	884	1,767	159	17	176	176,000
Wyoming	2,504	125	125	250	23	2	25	25,000

The figures in Column 2 of this table are those of the U. S. bureau of education.

The total number of librarians needed (Column 5) was obtained by taking one-tenth of the number of teachers (Column 2) and distributing these figures equally between public school and public libraries (Columns 3 and 4).

The number of new library recruits needed each year (Column 8) was obtained by taking one-tenth of the total number needed (Column 5) and distributing these figures on a ratio of 9 to 1 between the Bachelor and Graduate degrees (Columns 6 and 7).

The cost of special training for these librarians (Column 9) was obtained by multiplying the number of recruits needed (Column 8) by \$1000.

Views of American Travelers Abroad

Grace O. Kelley, chief classifier, the John Crerar library, Chicago, who is on leave of absence for travel and study in Europe, writes most interestingly of her experiences. Miss Kelley was a delegate to the third World conference of university women at Christiania and of this she writes most entertainingly:

There were present women from 22 countries, earnest minded and intelligent women whose purpose is to promote understanding and friendship among women of all nations and to do their part in developing a moral as well as intellectual force. The comprehensive topic of the conference was stated as the Place of university women in the world's work, and under this head were discussed women's political work, teaching in secondary schools and, foremost and above all, in the inspiring address by Prof Caroline Spurgeon, president of the federation, on the desirability of opening up careers for educated women in the higher branches of industry, trade and finance. Prof Spurgeon stressed the point that woman's education and experience is not progressing at the same rate as her opportunities. But until a certain proportion of our best educated women turn their attention to a study and understanding of the economic bases of society and fit themselves to take their part in handling and controlling the economic forces which periodically plunge the world into war, they cannot have real weight in the councils of the world. Women are different from men—they are less combative and place their values differently. They have a contribution to make toward the formation of the international mind and so toward the building of that structure to adjust economic disputes which alone can prevent war.

The social side of the conference was beyond praise. The hospitality, kindness and generosity of the hosts of the four northern countries—Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark—were unlimited. The pretty badge, the lamp of knowledge on a blue background encircled with a gold wreath, gave entrance to many places, Viking ships, museums and castles.

The last meeting of the conference was a dinner on a mountain high above Christiania, where one looks down over the beautiful fiord of the city. It was a fine but informal feast. Friendships were cemented, speeches made and songs sung. It left a lasting impression.

Virginia Gildersleeve, dean of Barnard college, was elected to succeed Prof Spurgeon who has been president of the International federation of university women since its establishment five years ago.

Miss Kelley was also present at Netherlands week for American students, at Leyden. Of this she writes:

The *Nederlandsch-Amerikaansche Fundatie* initiated its first Netherlands week for American students in Leyden, July 7-12. About 25 men and women from America, together with 25 who were studying in England, were given the opportunity to come to Leyden to be the guests of residents of that city. A splendid program was worked out by which the mornings were given to the attendance of lectures by Leyden university professors on such subjects as the Place of Holland among the nations, How Holland became a nation, John L. Motley as a historian, the Indian empire of the Netherlands, the Land of Hugo Grotius, and the Latest discovery about the history of the Pilgrim fathers.

Leyden seemed especially fitted as a meeting place. Not only is the town a charming one but it was there that the English Puritans settled and lived for 11 years before that brave band, known as the Pilgrim fathers, left for the western shores and planted there the beginnings of a new nation. This American week has been initiated with the idea of strengthening the ties of friendship between Holland and America by making clear how many common bonds of interest there are between the two nations. Many of the forms and institutions of our American republic are directly traceable to Dutch influence. And now little Holland, sturdy, teeming with life, able to maintain its neutrality through the Great War, has made a gesture across the Atlantic to indicate that its political ideals are still akin to those of the New World.

The social side of the meeting was delightful. We were entertained in the homes of the Hollanders, I being the guest of the burgo-master of Leyden and his charming wife. The Men's Student corporation, as well as the Women's society of the university were our hosts on different occasions. The afternoons and usually the evenings were spent in sight-seeing either in Leyden or the surrounding towns. We saw The Hague, Scheveningen, Noordwijk, Delft and Haarlem. The last afternoon, hosts and guests, professors and wives, and trustees of the Fundatie, all gathered together for a delightful boat ride to *Kagermeer lake*, where tea was served and farewell speeches made. The event is likely to become an annual one.

Miss Kelley's account of Copenhagen is most interesting:

As I sit here in my quiet room in Copenhagen, looking out upon seven church spires and hearing the chimes every quarter of an hour, while below my window in a court, an organ is grinding out a melody that really grips one curiously, I know and feel that I am in a city that is truly European. London

affected me even more; there one felt a sense of pathos, a strain of living which, in spite of the fast and furious methods of New York and Chicago, one does not feel in those cities.

My initiation into European libraries, learned and public, was of great interest to me, but of course it is ground well-trodden by others. The marvelous collections of books, for instance in the Bodleian and British museum, arranged under vast subjects according to size, attainable only through the use of an unwieldy, heavy catalog, made clear to me what a great advantage a *new* country like the United States has in handling its libraries.

I met many librarians in England, all men. I heard rumors of one or two women at the head of public libraries, but saw none. I was rather surprised to have some one say to me: "We understand that all your best positions in America are held by men!" That statement cannot wholly be refuted but we have gone many steps farther than is indicated in England. Being asked whether he had women on his staff, a certain librarian replied, "Yes, indeed, I was one of the first in England to bring that about, but I was considered quite radical when I insisted that a fully educated woman was at least as good as a half educated man." Very brave and discerning on his part, was it not?

A letter to her chief, Miss Corwin, from Harriet K. Shelley, assistant in the Public library, Elkhart, Ind., who is spending a year's leave of absence in England, contains an interesting account of her attendance at the British library conference in Glasgow, September 8-13:

Thanks to your letters of introduction and the presence of Mr Bishop of the University of Michigan, and Dr Johnston of the American library in Paris, I felt among friends from the beginning. I cannot say enough of the cordiality of the Scotsmen I met. After the insincerity of the French politeness, the pompous Spanish oratory and the cool, correct (no more) formality of the English courtesy, the heartiness and genuineness of the Scotsmen's welcome was an experience that will warm my heart whenever I am reminded of Bonnie Scotland.

The first evening of the conference was given up to the provost marshal's official reception which was held in the magnificent Municipal building of Glasgow. Ushers conducted me up the wide, sweeping marble stairway to the second floor where an exceptionally fine orchestra was playing a medley of Southern airs, which warmed the cockles of my heart. When I mentioned my pleasure at this, the guests jokingly insisted that I had planned to arrive at that moment.

A most kind man hunted up the Bishops for me. They were most charming and it was great fun to talk home news for a few minutes.

Then they brought up Dr Johnston and introductions began right and left.

I was greatly indebted to Robert W. MacLeod, consulting librarian of the W. & R. Holmes Company, Glasgow, for his constant courtesy in seeing that I was provided with escorts and information as to what was going on. Mr MacLeod is the author of County rural libraries. I also met Miss Rait, sister of Prof Rait, president-elect of the conference, and she also was a royal hostess. Another pleasing acquaintance was Mr Wharton of the British museum, who is said to be the greatest living authority on Czecho-Slovakia, its literature, art and history.

The president gave a most refreshing address on the Relation of the librarian and the layman. We Americans agreed that not only did he have something to say but it was beautifully said and with much sly humor.

The report of the Carnegie United Kingdom trustees brought on much discussion and some criticism was made of the loose fashion in which some of the work is carried on.

There was a good exhibit on library appliances, books, etc., but nothing new to speak of.

One afternoon we were taken to visit the libraries. They were all very busy and certainly are doing wonderful work. You would have loved the enormous commercial library. It was three stories and full of earnest men looking up all sorts of business questions.

The Mitchell library is a huge reference library, much like the Newberry. It would have done your soul good to see how used it looked, not like the marble tomb for dead books it might have been. Of course, their charging system looked most awfully cumbersome and they use so many supplies and so much time, but then everything moves more slowly on this side of the Atlantic, except Scotland. It is much busier and more American than anywhere I have been.

That night was Mr Bishop's talk on large library buildings, an American contribution to architecture. Very fine address and I was so proud to know him. Next morning we had Dr Johnston's paper on the Place of the library in international education. It struck a good big note and the discussion was very keen. All agreed that international work by librarians could and should be a very important factor in the poor old world's most awful state, both in circulating books and in seeing that the right books were translated into the specific language most needed.

Then we had a paper by John Minto of Edinburgh on Education and training for librarianship. It was fine and the resulting discussion very spirited. Their problems seem identical with our (yours and mine) experience. Library degrees are essential, apprenticeship and practical experience necessary, but personal qualifications are imperative.

A letter from W. W. Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in answer to a question relating to the Glasgow meeting says:

The social features were, as usual, prominent and delightful. The opening reception by the Corporation of Glasgow, with an address of welcome by the lord provost, a musical program and dancing, seemed to me unusually pleasant for such affairs. S. A. Pitt, chief librarian of the Glasgow libraries and chairman of the local committee, carried through all the entertainment for the visitors not only with great hospitality but with an unusual absence of small difficulties.

I heard two very notable papers. One was by Prof Rait on the Library and the layman, which was his address as president of the association. It was a remarkably sane and cogent statement on the functions of libraries of various sorts and contained much suggestive material, particularly for those who have the task of formulating policies for the development of library service in their communities.

He pointed out that the awakening of the readers' interest was not specially and specifically the function of the librarian, but rather the duty of the teacher. He considered that in recent years, the librarian had made two definite contributions to the task of awakening interest, one was the arranging of lectures in connection with the public library and the other, which he regarded as the greatest and most beneficent revolution in library practice within his own lifetime—the concession of access to the shelves. Dealing with book selection, he went on to say that the miserable amount of money available for the purchase of books in numerous libraries made expert advice more, and not less, necessary. The layman might help in the selection of books but the librarian was the expert. On the question of what the layman did for the librarian, he was compelled to admit that the profession was not treated generously and not even justly. It was necessary to differentiate between a librarian and a caretaker; qualified librarian, certified librarian, or some such phrase would be sufficient to distinguish trained members of a recognized profession from the mere amateur. Severe tests of proficiency had been established and it seemed that the time had come when librarians might reasonably ask for a wider and more general recognition. The other discourse was an address by E. A. Savage, who succeeded the late lamented Hew Morrison as librarian of the Carnegie library, Edinburgh. This was one of the most thoughtful and forcible papers I have ever heard at a library conference. His plea was for a careful study of circulation from the viewpoint of the reader, directed toward an effort to find out why certain classes of books are read and others neglected. I am confident that Mr Savage has presented a problem which deserves increasing

consideration. It is akin to the careful study of the community with a view toward the possibilities of library service which many American libraries have been urging for years past.

The address by Colonel Mitchell, secretary of the Carnegie Trust, which has given much support to the county library movement in Great Britain, was an outstanding feature of the conference. However, there was severe criticism on the part of many of the members of the results of placing these county libraries under the Education committees of the various County councils. Colonel Mitchell made it clear that this was a feature of the law authorizing the formation of county libraries for which neither he nor the librarians who assisted in putting the measure through Parliament were responsible. The complaint was that persons without library training had been made chief librarians of some of the county libraries and further that the local borough libraries had in many cases been without proper representation in the management of the county libraries. It is plain, therefore, that like other new problems, the county library plan in Great Britain is not unattended with difficulties.

Attendance at the various meetings ranged from 200 to 500. The men were in the great majority, the number of women librarians present being very small. There was a notable absence of the heads of the largest libraries of the country. No one in high authority was present from the British museum or from Oxford or Cambridge university libraries, or from the other large university libraries. In fact, there was a noticeable absence of librarians of educational institutions and special libraries, the bulk of the attendance being from municipally supported libraries.

John Minto, librarian, Signet library, Edinburgh, read a paper on Education and training for librarianship. In the course of his remarks he said that the old idea that any moderately educated person with a fondness for books was fitted to be a librarian died hard, and if they cared to judge by the meagre monetary inducements here and there still being offered to candidates, that idea had not yet been fully eradicated from the minds of certain library authorities. Librarians ought to endeavor to make library service as attractive and desirable a career as other professions, and they must see to it that the standard of remuneration was raised. Their educational policy should concentrate upon obtaining a uniform standard of attainment before employment not lower than that of university entrance.—*The Library Assistant, October '24.*

An Interesting Meeting

The Employing bookbinders of America, an organization composed of edition binders, many of whom are employed by big publishers in the making of their books, and also of library binders and pamphlet binders, met for their fifth annual convention at the Drake hotel, Chicago, October 15-17.

The addresses and discussions dealt largely with the economic problems of the industry—standards of production, solution of labor problems, standardization as related to economy in time and materials, the importance of adoption in each plant of the cost system devised for and adapted to the industry, thus insuring a known margin on production as against price cutting at a loss and with a lower grade of the product, with a strong plea for improvement in quality of paper, printing and binding of books.

An excellent exhibit was on display showing examples of bookbinding done in connection with manual training in about a dozen schools in various sections of the country, prizes being given for the best work. The Educational-Vocational committee of the organization is cooperating with schools for the purpose of developing talent in the bookbinding line to the end of supplying partly trained recruits for the bookbinding industry. A textbook on bookbinding is in preparation, to insure uniformity of instruction in the schools.

At the group meeting of the library binders G. B. Van Deene, Springfield, Mass., chairman, discussed present conditions of the trade; R. E. Baylis, New York, chairman of the Cost commission, explained the need of the cost system as adapted for library binders. Miss Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, expressed her cordial interest in the organization and emphasized the need of better mutual understanding between libraries and the binders.

Several binders alluded to the difficulty of doing business with libraries and particularly their constant demand for lower prices. Miss Ahern said in answer:

Librarians are bound to get as much as possible for their funds, sometimes meager, and do not expect to get something for nothing. Most librarians, thanks to A. L. A. helpfulness and library school training, understand good binding and know its real cost. What they object to is poor binding at good prices. They want good binding, for service, comfort and appearance, and they will not object to a fair price if they feel they are getting their money's worth.

Problems as related to libraries were discussed by Miss Stiles and Miss Wheelock, both of Cleveland.

Honorary membership for the coming year was conferred upon George H. Carter, U. S. public printer, M. R. Speelman, foreman of the bindery, Government printing office, Washington, and Mary E. Wheelock, chairman, A. L. A. committee on bookbinding, Cleveland.

A delightful sight-seeing drive and an evening of entertainment were provided and the Library Binders group was given a luncheon at the Monastery Hill Bindery through the courtesy of E. C. Hertzberg, followed by an inspection of the plant.

The newly elected officers are John C. Burkhardt, Detroit, president, and Frank M. Barnard, Boston, secretary. Mr Van Deene was again made chairman of the Library Binders group.

An offer of service which comes from the Franklin Square Agency, Harper & Brothers, New York City, is one that will be sure of welcome from librarians. This is a display hanger sent out once a month, listing "10 outstanding magazine articles." Titles of the articles and the magazines in which they appear are in bold face type, with authors' names in italics. A short descriptive note of not more than three lines accompanies each article. The articles are selected by a special Advisory council, of which Dr A. E. Bostwick and Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., are members. There is no charge for this service and the neat little hanger, which is most attractive, has absolutely nothing of the advertising scheme about it.

Library Week at Lake Placid, N. Y.

Lake Placid club, with its varied and exceptional attractions, drew a large company of librarians and friends to the sessions of Library week for the New York library association, September 22-27. In addition to the program of the N. Y. L. A., the American library institute held two sessions.

The theme of the week—International friendship through books—was ably planned to carry through the entire program by the president, John A. Lowe, Brooklyn public library, and the response of the speakers resulted in a delightful and convincing impression of the large place which books may take in promoting international sympathy and understanding.

Dr Melvil Dewey's customary gracious and informing welcome to the club was enjoyed at the opening of the meeting, and the club's orchestra and the walks and drives through the unsurpassed scenery of Lake Placid were unforgettable delights.

Most sessions were arranged to leave time for the Boston symphony concerts, Adirondack drives and lake trips planned by Lake Placid club.

At the first session, on Monday evening, Frederick J. Libby, executive secretary, National council for the prevention of war, struck a fine opening note on the theme of the conference in his address, the Responsibility of librarians for the peace of the world. Mr Libby's words carried weight because of his residence in 14 countries of Europe and Asia, his reconstruction service during and after the World War, and because of his strong presentation of his subject. He convincingly argued that all progress up from the jungle has been in the course of law, which has not changed human nature but which has yet been accepted as the method of settling disputes by all but one group of civilized men, in a world group of nations. In discussing the power of public opinion, Mr Libby spoke of the extent to which hate has continued on the increase in Europe since the war; of the fact that the disputes

which now exist under the Versailles treaty will be settled either by war or by some machinery of law. A developed and strengthened league of nations, aided in its accomplishment by the education of public opinion, is Europe's only hope. "We must all," he said, "stop handing down hate." The library's opportunity to assist in this is tremendous. "Disarm the hearts, for that is peace." And the library can make of the child a world citizen.

Mr Libby made three suggestions for librarians: 1) a shelf of books which aim to promote world fellowship; 2) an effort to educate children to intelligent understanding of other nationalities; 3) vision in the librarian's own heart of a new era and a better world. "Either we end war, or war will end us," he quoted.

George H. Locke, chief librarian, Public library, Toronto, in his enjoyable and refreshing address, How a Canadian looks at the literary world, made a plea for the imaginative and ideal in literature, saying that his hope in the philosophy of life is to be judged, not by any average but by one's record—his highest point.

On Tuesday morning, Clara W. Hunt, Public library, Brooklyn, opened her talk on International friendship through children's books with an allusion to the popular "drives" and "days" which are calculated to achieve some special purpose. She illustrated by story how prejudices often gained in childhood are hard to overcome in later years, even though one's horizon widens and broader contacts are made, and how prejudices injurious to world friendship may be made or avoided by means of books. "Begin in babyhood," she said, "with pictures which show other nationalities and their life without ridicule and injustice." She urged poetry and song and the choicest fairy-tales of all lands and ascribed our weakness in teaching world friendship through books to the neglect of early efforts and to the use of text-books rather than works appealing to the imagination.

Copies of Miss Hunt's selected list were distributed to her hearers but she

stated that she laid no claim to offering a list that would cure the world.

"If some philanthropist would only interest himself in the translation of these books into several languages, it would be an incalculable service to humanity." She begged the librarians to believe in the tremendous importance of library work with children and to realize how much they may be able to help in making real the vision of "Peace on earth, good will to men."

At the opening session on Wednesday, Anna H. Branch talked on the Poets' guild and its work of publishing poems on separate sheets, singly or in series, useful for gifts or display.

Julia A. Hopkins' illuminating paper on Present-day English novelists included 30 of those who are representative in the reading of today and who give an understanding of England and the English. Mary Eastwood's literary pilgrimage among Russian, French and Scandinavian authors emphasized the fact that a knowledge gained through literature of the mental processes of a people as well as of the country itself gives added interest to travel.

The Scholarship dinner was particularly delightful because of the presence of the librarian of Congress, Dr Herbert Putnam, whose personal charm enhanced his address to the winners. After the dinner, the Scholarship alumni organized informally to make a contribution to the scholarship fund which was reported to be in need of replenishing.

Dr Henry Seidel Canby, editor, *Literary Review*, *New York Evening Post*, in his fine address, recommended that Americans cultivate the reading of authors whose nationalities represent that of their ancestry, by way of coming to a better understanding of themselves. He thinks that all libraries should include books in other languages as far as possible.

The County library movement was illustrated by Mrs Kate D. Andrew's account of Chemung county's success in securing the coöperation of the supervisors and the city's library in library service to the county; by Ruth B. Drake's paper on the book-wagon in

Monroe county, and by Helena S. Le Fevre's review of the notable success in county organization in Northern Michigan.

On Thursday evening, H. H. B. Meyer, president of the A. L. A., spoke on the association's newer activities—scholarships, new headquarters, adult education in 20 institutions and international work.

Friday's session included a stimulating account by Caroline A. Whipple, University of State of New York, on the work of the state in bringing books to new Americans, and all were charmed and impressed by the addresses of G. Panunzio and Konrad Bercovici. Other authors who brought intense pleasure to their audiences were those scheduled for the evening programs—Anna H. Branch and Mrs Marguerite Wilkinson, who read from their poems, and Mrs Dorothy Canfield Fisher who read two unpublished stories which she had "made to order" for her own small son, and which charmed her hearers.

Resolutions were passed expressing appreciation of the fine program of the week and the generous and open-hearted hospitality of Dr and Mrs Dewey.

Officers elected are: President, Margery C. Quigley, Endicott free library; vice-president, Mrs Kate D. Andrew, Elmira; secretary, Mrs Laura Foucher, Utica; treasurer, Ira Sitterly, Fredonia.

Regional Meeting

The Southwestern library association held its second biennial meeting at Santa Fe, N. M., August 28-30. The meeting formed a part of the two hundred and twelfth annual celebration of the Fiesta, an exposition and presentation of history, life and culture of the Southwest. This gave a most interesting atmosphere since it afforded opportunity to re-live the romantic past. It furnished an occasion for the native American Indian race to show its finer side of life in the dramatic ceremonies and in the achievements of its singers, artists and craftsmen. The celebration put on by artists and poets was most interesting. Members of this group who were present were Harriet

Monroe, editor of *Poetry*, Olive Rush and F. S. Curtis.

About 60 librarians of the Southwest attended the meeting, delegates being present from Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico and Mexico.

The chief theme of discussion was the place of the library in combating illiteracy. Small library buildings also received attention, and a number of interesting plans for small libraries were exhibited. A paper on the Opportunity of the library to assist in the illiteracy crusade was presented. The state superintendent of Public instruction, New Mexico, urged that schools give more attention to what is read and less emphasis to the mechanics of reading. "Reading properly taught should develop in the child a taste for literature and fit him to read intelligently and with delight the great works of the world, leaving him with a permanent lifelong interest in good reading."

Mrs Maud D. Sullivan suggested free sources of information on science through use of government and state documents, the Russell Sage and Carnegie foundations.

The library's responsibility in fighting illiteracy was ably presented in a paper by Mrs Cora Wilson Stewart who urged libraries to have a "literacy corner," to secure the U. S. bulletins, especially No. 20 of 1912, and Dr Winthrop Talbot's bulletin on Adult literacy in this collection; also *Bulletin of the World's Association for Adult Education*.

Art and literature of the Southwest, presented by those who had contributed to its development, was one of the delightful features of the meeting. Among these were Alice Corbin Henderson, F. S. Curtis, Jr., Mrs Elizabeth Willis De Huff, Benjamin Read, and Olive Rush of the Artist's colony, whose dream is that New Mexico may yet be called the world center of art.

Prof J. W. Dobie of A. & M. college, Stillwater, Okla., author of *Folklore of Texas*, gave a talk on the folklore of the Southwest and how to preserve it. Prof Dobie is collecting material on the folklore of Oklahoma. Rafael Yelo Gunter,

Mexico City, presented a learned paper on Relations between art, science and religion.

Officers elected for 1924-1926 are: President, Wilma Loy Shelton, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque; secretary, Metta M. Woodward, Carnegie library, Woodward, Okla.; treasurer, Christine Sanders, Public library, Helena, Ark.

The next meeting of the association will be held in Tulsa, Okla., the date not yet decided.

The following discussion was an interesting number:

Survey of library conditions in Southwest

Arkansas—An impetus of library interest since A. L. A. meeting at Hot Springs. Traveling library service and organization of libraries brings more calls than the State aid can meet.

Arizona—Four public libraries in four counties, three semi-public and two others. University of Arizona conducts a traveling library service. Three northern counties with a combined area of 34,688 square miles and a population of 34,532 have no libraries; others with a population of 54,230 lack tax support. Tucson has a Carnegie library of 30,000v., and the University library, 50,000v. The Copper Queen libraries in Bisbee and Douglas are open to the public but maintained primarily for the benefit of the employees.

Louisiana—Increased interest in library work since the A. L. A. meeting last year. There is a state library commission but no funds for work. All is being done by private subscription, which is inadequate for the needs.

Mexico—The University of Mexico is doing work in library extension. The government shows an awakened and growing interest in making available library service to the ignorant and unlearned. Traveling library service is on the increase.

Texas—Noted for its special collections, the Wrenn, the Garcia Genaro libraries, library school and Library of government research. The State library at Austin publishes historic archives and also conducts traveling library service and state-wide service to the blind. Most of the libraries of the small towns are supported by donations or subscriptions. The most recent development in the state is the establishment of six county libraries.

New Mexico—Recently organized a state library association with 75 members and is making plans to secure a library law. Has 20 libraries. Among the outstanding libraries is that of the Santa Fe museum, housed in the historic Palace of the Governors, and a new university library at Albuquerque.

Oklahoma—A library commission; traveling library service; has a state historical society which publishes historical documents and is repository for historic relics.

**American Library Institute
Lake Placid meeting, 1924**

At the Lake Placid meeting of the American Library Institute, September 26, under the chairmanship of President C. W. Andrews of the John Crerar library, Chicago, Dr A. E. Bostwick explained at length the aim and object of the process to be followed in making the survey of library conditions in America. He called attention to the fact that the library world is not different from many other forms of activity in that all kinds of assumptions are made—things people have read, have been told about—all based on assumption and too few times is the trouble taken to find out what actual facts are. Librarians generally know about their own libraries but they do not know about libraries in general. He instanced the matter of statistics of circulation, where assumption is largely the measuring stick rather than actual facts.

When the survey is finished, it is expected that practices in different libraries will be known since the reason for the survey is to find out facts, their relation to each other and thereby their relative value to other libraries.

Dr Bostwick warned against anyone becoming alarmed at the number of questions submitted as no one person is expected to answer all of them. He referred to the proposed investigation by the Institute of government research in Washington with regard to library personnel, etc. The two committees will work in harmony, will keep acquainted with what each is doing but will report on the separate matters entrusted to them. He emphasized the point that the committee is not seeking opinions but to make a survey of facts to show what is taking place in libraries, what the librarian does and what the library is. It has no intention of issuing a volume of statistics. He stated that there was some disappointment as to the number of suggestions that had come in from members of the A. L. A. These could be counted by the dozens rather than by thousands, as they should be. He bespoke the interest of

the various librarians present, their special attention, and expressed the belief that the results of the survey will be worth-while.

Objections to the idea and processes of the survey were entered by Frank P. Hill, Brooklyn, who also presented a letter from John Cotton Dana, Newark, N. J. Dr Bostwick's comment was that such objections were interesting but that it had been decided to make a survey and the committee was going through with it. The matter had been under discussion for several years and objections, to be effective, should have been voiced earlier.

Dr Andrews brought up the necessity for a census of the contents of libraries so that scholars might know what libraries are rich in what subjects. An interesting discussion followed and Dr Andrews agreed to H. H. B. Meyers' suggestion that the former make a survey of the John Crerar library along the proposed lines, which might serve as a model for other libraries.

Dr E. C. Richardson, Princeton, discussed the quantity factor in the research book problem. He said that facts with regard to the number of books asked for that cannot be supplied by any particular library are unknown, and there is no way of finding out how many libraries would have to be searched in order to get at special literature. Dr Richardson took a narrow section of the alphabet, *Aa—Aba*, and went through the actual catalogs of various large libraries, like the *Bibliothèque Nationale* and the British museum. He thought, naturally, they would contain a great many duplicates but was greatly surprised to find only 130 duplicates in the first 300 titles and these were among later publications. He also gave some interesting figures with regard to other large libraries, like the Library of Congress, Harvard University library, the Sorbonne, Brera, Ambrosian, and the libraries of Bern and Zurich.

Dr Richardson made it clear that it is a definite duty to help enrich the Union catalog of the Library of Congress. This can be done by librarians sending in catalog cards for all their unusual titles. In the field of rare books it is necessary to

avoid competition, which raises the price unduly, and coöperation between large libraries is absolutely essential.

The higher education of librarians and prospects for the establishment of a graduate school were discussed briefly.

[Abstract from report of Dr T. W. Koch, secretary, A. L. I.]

Good Bits from Saratoga Meetings

At the meeting of the Special libraries association at Saratoga Springs, much material was presented that cannot fail to be of interest and aid to general library work. Excerpts from some of the papers are given below and are recommended for special consideration to library workers who are trying to understand the whole library situation.

The greatest problem of the special library is to locate technical and specialized sources of information and to obtain current information and reports from such sources promptly. The Federal government includes a congeries of information producing agencies which have never been classified or indexed in a way to make these informational resources properly and promptly available to American special libraries. A library information service, created in some department of the Federal government, if properly maintained, would provide the necessary contact between the special library and the Federal agencies of research and information. Such a service would intensify the value of the services performed by the Federal departments by cutting down lost time in the application of new principles and new fact information; it would stimulate material prosperity and quicken the solving of the great variety of problems of community well-being with which our Federal government is concerned.—*Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr.*

Books purchased for bank libraries might be grouped into four classes: general works, history of banking, reference books on banking and economics, and text books such as those of the American Institute of banking. Extensive purchasing along the line of history of bank-

ing and reference books on banking need not be done when a complete supply is available in nearby libraries, but a collection of books on the history of banking should be quite complete unless copies are readily available in some nearby library. More inter-loaning along this line might be advisable. The Library of Congress will lend anything with an almost indefinite time limit.

It is questionable whether it is advisable to have complete sets of the report of the Comptroller of the currency and of the Treasury department, altho some libraries have files which extend back many years and the early reports are called for now and then.

Libraries might purchase books on financial and economic subjects and lend them to bank libraries for an indefinite length of time.—*Report of committee on Federal Reserve banks.*

At the recent meeting of the League of library commissions at Saratoga Springs, Anna A. MacDonald, Pennsylvania state library, Harrisburg, said that the ideals of commission workers were the causes which would result in better libraries—"Books for everybody and everybody for books." Public sentiment favorable to good library service must be created. Is it not possible to place libraries on the basis of economic necessities? Farmers' institutes should put the county library on their programs. The International Harvester Company has a big educational program because educated farmers buy more harvesters. Big corporations may be shown that the library may be a business asset. In everything that man does to make money, there is a side that touches the library. Once women's clubs gave chief support to libraries; now the Rotary and other clubs may be approached for support.

Charles E. Rush, Indianapolis, stated that library training facilities are very inadequate. To form a clientele of seekers after knowledge and wisdom is the chief aim of the public library.

Sydney B. Mitchell, University of California library, speaking on Returns made to the people on their investment, compared librarians and assistants with

business clerks, to the advantage of the former as to accuracy and ability, stating that the library system of card records has been adopted by business institutions. The spirit of the public library is to give more service than the law requires. People usually want money more than they want books, yet banks always have the office on the ground floor and as near the street as possible. Mr Mitchell stressed the need of the librarian to *know* books. He gave good instances of the misuse of superseded books. The evening and Sunday service is not so good, he said, as that of the regular week day, and it should be better, for the real worker and taxpayer.

The Capitol dome is generally accepted as a symbol of Washington, but it would be more accurate to take any one of the square brick buildings which house government activities along lines of gathering and dissemination of business information. The most truly important men in Washington are not the senators or congressmen but the economists, technical experts, scientists, statisticians and the crew of officials in charge of disseminating the information which they assemble.

Congress makes a big noise, its activities are spectacular and seem easily comprehensible. Newspapers have developed the habit of reporting columns of congressional happenings. There is ample reason for this. Nevertheless, it is true that for every important bill which passes, a dozen equally important plans, programs or situations are being worked out by the executive departments and bureaus of the government. Congress says once, when it passes a bill, what shall be done, and executive agencies of the government spend years carrying out the legislative instructions. In the long run, the execution is more important than the original legislation.

Business men can and should get more help from the government than they are getting. Instead of spending time and money assembling facts for use in their business, they should go first to the government and ascertain whether those facts are not already available. Many times they will find them in little known

corners of the government. Information worth millions of dollars if sold commercially is available without cost from the government, but business organizations must go after it and dig it out.

The government system of disseminating business information has developed well in recent years, but it is imperfect. Contrary to general belief, adequate funds are not available for printing or even mimeographing of valuable reports of government specialists on hundreds of phases of business. Those reports and periodicals which are printed are either given away or sold at nominal price, but no provision is made in most cases for proper advertising or publicity or other means of promoting use of the material. Officials are hampered by all sorts of antiquated rules and red tape. There is no system comparable to the British government's method of authorizing private publishers to issue important government reports, although recently the Department of commerce has worked out in a small way a means of allowing a private publishing company to print and sell at a fair price certain reports prepared under government direction.

Business men are afraid of the government. They get discouraged from writing for information because replies are often late, or inadequate, or stupid. The government frequently is blameworthy but more frequently the fault lies in failure of the business man to narrow his inquiry down to practical bounds. He is really too busy to do this. He needs liaison agents in his own organization, librarians or some sort of commercial intelligence specialists, and these need to cultivate a more intimate knowledge of the valuable business information facilities of Washington.

Many businesses ought to maintain inexpensive Washington offices, devoted not to politics nor lobbying nor special influence, but to gathering information. Some ought to employ reputable information agents. Several hundred trade associations already have national headquarters in Washington and the movement toward Washington continues. This

is due not only to the fact that Washington is a political and legislative center, but also to the growing importance of Washington as a business information field.—*W. M. Kiplinger.*

Special Libraries Association Boston meeting

The Special libraries association of Boston held its first meeting of the year, September 29. Supper was served to 52 members and guests, among them, 10 charter members. At a short business meeting which followed, announcement was made concerning the library course and the committee chairmen were announced as follows:

Education, Mr Mooney; Membership, Miss Withington; Publicity, Miss Gibbs; Registration, Mr Stebbins; Methods, Mr Lee; Directory, Mr Handy, and Hospitality, Mr Alcott.

The subject for the evening was the Special libraries association of Boston: What it was and what it should be. Mrs Hartzell of Dana Hall, Wellesley, charter member, told of the organization of the association on June 4, 1918, with 26 librarians present, and related a number of amusing incidents which happened in the early days. She emphasized particularly the informality of these first meetings and the good fellowship and coöperation which began then and still continue.

Lewis A. Armistead of the Boston Elevated Railway Company commented on the publication of the Directory of special libraries in Boston and vicinity, which was issued in March, 1920, followed by a second edition in June, 1921, under Mrs Hartzell's leadership. He expressed the hope that it might be possible for the smaller libraries to send to the association a monthly list of their accessions, these to be duplicated and a complete set to be distributed to each library.

Mr Handy, also a charter member and this year president of the national Special libraries association, gave a most interesting and entertaining account of an attempt some 12 or 14 years ago to or-

ganize a sort of eastern district group of the national Special libraries association. This, however, did not survive as there were not enough members to maintain it. He, too, pointed out that the meeting of local groups of librarians and then again of these groups together at the national meeting, has brought about that splendid coöperation which is found among special librarians throughout the country at the present time.

The meeting was then turned over to Mr Alcott of the *Boston Globe*, who, with other members, reproduced the little play which the Boston members staged at the Saratoga meeting.

The year's work starts off exceedingly well.

Exhibit at Chicago

The Chicago committee of the Financial group of the Special libraries association arranged an exhibit of books and material for display at the convention of the American Bankers association held in Chicago, September 29-October 2. A very interesting little pamphlet, *Your bank and the organization of its library*, compiled by the committee, was distributed. The pamphlet contains arguments showing the value of library service in the business of banking and lists of books for the bank library arranged by subject, which cannot fail to be of help and value to those interested. The pamphlet may be obtained from the H. M. Bylesby Co., Chicago.

An interesting address relating to financial libraries, what they are and how they serve their patrons, with some information regarding work that has been done, was given over the radio, September 30, by R. E. Wright of the First Wisconsin national bank, Milwaukee, during the recent convention in Chicago of the American Bankers association.

An interesting item in the exhibit of the Hertzberg Bindery, Chicago, at the A. L. A. conference at Saratoga Springs, was an original letter written by General Burgoyne to General Gates in behalf of Major Ackland, who was made prisoner by the American forces.

American Library Association

A. L. A. Headquarters' staff has recently been augmented by the following people, all of whom fill new positions:

Isabella M. Cooper, formerly in charge of the Central circulation branch, New York public library, is now editor of the new A. L. A. catalog to be published in 1925 for the Fiftieth anniversary.

Alice L. Jewett, Mount Holyoke, N. Y. S. L., formerly assistant, New York public library, is general assistant to the Board of education for librarianship.

Hazel B. Timmerman, Simmons, children's librarian, Public library, Kansas City, is assistant to the Board of education for librarianship.

Helen Burling, Grinnell college, formerly with the *Woman Citizen*, joins the staff as assistant on reading courses and adult education work.

Following the decision made at its meeting held in Chicago, September 4-5, the Board of education for librarianship visited library schools in the eastern district during the two weeks beginning October 20, the itinerary including the following schools:

Cleveland, Western Reserve library school; Buffalo, University of Buffalo library school; Syracuse, Syracuse University library school; Albany, New York State library school; Boston, Simmons College school of library science; New York, Library school, New York public library; Brooklyn, Pratt Institute school of library science; Philadelphia, Drexel Institute school of library science, and Pittsburgh, Carnegie library school.

Catalogers

The Boston group of catalogers and classifiers will hold its fall meeting, November 12, at the Twentieth Century club, 3 Joy street. Dinner will be at 6:15, followed by adjournment at 7:30 to the Massachusetts state library. Reports of the meetings of the Catalog section of the A. L. A. at Saratoga will be given by Etheldred Abbot, Brookline, and Mildred Tucker, Harvard College library. A brief outline of the catalog of the Massachusetts state library and its aims will be given by Mrs Frances R. Coe, followed by an inspection under the guid-

ance of members of the catalog department.

Suggestions for topics to be discussed at the next A. L. A. meeting are requested.

The A. L. A. catalog section at Saratoga Springs voted to revise and complete the directory of catalogers and classifiers now filed at A. L. A. headquarters.

The committee asks that any cataloger or classifier not already registered will send on a catalog card the following information, preferably typewritten: Name, address, position, education, training, experience, special line of work, publications, etc.

Mail cards to Eliza Lamb, cataloger, University of Chicago libraries, or to local Regional group secretary.

He came; he read; he conquered.—*Kearney Walton*.

Into this winning slogan for National book week, a Tacoma high-school senior of rare insight has condensed the whole underlying philosophy of library service. The library provides the place to which to come. The books offer the knowledge and the experience of the most wise of all time. He who reads and applies wisely the knowledge thus acquired will conquer, regardless. The thought almost invites expansion into a sermon.

Another slogan among the winners in the high-school contest for slogans was submitted by a junior: Better books, fewer crooks. A catchy phrase, surely, but more—a great truth. Psychologists and sociologists are both admitting and applying it. When the people everywhere catch the spirit and apply the wisdom of these two lads, the world will be a better place in which to live, and the library will be secure, as befits an institution of such potential power and significant influence.—*Public Library Report, Tacoma, Wash. 1923.*

The president of one of the foremost universities which was agitating the new development of its library, in speaking of recataloging the books of which there are more than 300,000, remarked that he feared it would take nearly two years to do the work.

Library Meetings

Chicago—A dinner attended by 67 members preceded the first meeting for 1924-25, October 2, of the Chicago library club. These dinners will be a permanent feature of the club's regular meetings, as a means of fostering friendliness among the members. There was a record attendance at the meeting following the dinner and the club's new quarters, the Anne Morgan studios in the Fine Arts building, were inadequate to accommodate the overflow. There were 98 new members accepted.

The evening was largely devoted to reports on the general sessions and various section meetings of the A. L. A. at Saratoga Springs, presented by those who had attended.

An interesting number on the program was the talk of T. C. Tai, librarian of Tsing Hua College library, Peking, China, who made a plea for the interest of American librarians in the return of the balance of the Chinese Boxer indemnity fund, part of which would be used for the promotion of library service in China. Mr Tai is on leave of absence for a year's study in America.

Colorado—Two notes of hope were sounded at the thirty-fifth annual meeting of the Colorado library association at Boulder, September 11-13. For the first time, a librarian from the "western slope" of the mountains, by which the state is divided, attended the meeting. It was announced that the state had appropriated a sufficient sum to enable publication of *Colorado Libraries* until January 1. The Governor of the state was present and delivered an address on the Librarian's opportunity to awaken social consciousness in the young, and Dr Don C. Sowers, executive secretary of the Bureau of business and government research, was present to listen to the discussion of the state's library legislation needs.

The new Legislative committee will attempt again to put through the bill for financial support and consolidation of the state library commissions. The legislative program of the state association has been adopted as a plank in the platform of the

Democratic state platform this fall. Dr Sowers stated that the states get a fund for libraries averaging two per cent, which would give Colorado \$18,000. This is more than twice the amount the committee is asking for. Dr Sowers was inclined to advocate library support being taken care of under the state department of schools, though open to conviction in this matter.

The program was given on the campus, the association being guests of the Colorado University and town libraries. About 80 guests were present, including several librarians from Wyoming. Thursday evening, after the usual addresses of welcome, which were responded to by the president, Mary M. Weaver of Rocky Ford, a dramatic reading of Milne's Romantic age was given by Mrs George F. Reynolds of the English department of Colorado university, and a reception followed in the Woman's building.

At the first general session, Friday morning, Rena Reese, Denver public library, gave a paper on New standards in library training, reviewing and explaining the Carnegie Corporation report on training for library service, the work of the Temporary Library Training board and its hearings in New York last spring, and the final appointment of the new Board of education for librarianship. She noted as especially important the change in classification discussed at the New York hearings, creating two classes of library schools, graduate and undergraduate, and of the latter, a senior and junior grade.

Quattrille McClung, librarian, Park Hill branch, Denver, followed with a charming tale of the Poetry circle, conducted with great success in a rather cultured community. She had felt that storytelling had been overdone, with too much the purely recreational purpose in mind and wished to present another form of literature to the girls of the neighborhood. She drew together a group of 32 girls, following no set program but the fancy of the auditors. Each brought and read her own selection and later a few wrote poems of their own, good enough to be read aloud to the C. L. A. She

found that the new rhythms did not appeal but had especial success with so-called travel poems, as those of Longfellow, Garland, Sherwood, Henley and Noyes. Miss McClung is working on her third volume of an anthology of poems which girls like. In such ways as this some excellent anthologies may be born!

Mrs E. A. Hoelscher, State preparatory school, followed with a thoroughly helpful paper on Some tendencies in current literature. She agreed that authors reflect the spirit and thought of the age but they also should be leaders, offering ideals. We are growing tired of the literature of repression and suppression, contract marriages, glands, etc. Literature should preserve the ideals of the race. Read the Able McLaughlins, for its spiritualized love, Herbert Quick's Hawkeye, Booth Tarkington, Willa Cather, Bojer's Great hunger, and the new biographical plays. Among the poets, she paid her respect to Edna St. Vincent Millay as catering to the wanton; intense, loving life and beauty but believing them to be short-lived; E. A. Robinson clings to the old ideals both in subject matter and form. "When our candles burn at both ends they do not last the night, and some of the present day literature will not help our candles even make a lovely light."

Lucretia Vaile, Denver public library, made an able and spirited plea for co-operation with the new Legislative committee and Dr Sowers and others discussed the proposed legislation.

A delightful social hour was enjoyed during the luncheon at the sorority house where many of the delegates were housed. Between courses, echoes of the A. L. A. were given by those who were in attendance at Saratoga Springs. The afternoon was devoted to a paper by Dr J. F. Willard on the First gold rush to Colorado. A visit to the Boulder public library followed.

In the evening, the librarians were entertained at Panorama park as guests of the Boulder chapter of the Colorado Mountain club. As the stars came out the guests gathered around a big fire and after listening to Indian legends told in costume by a young Arapahoe chief's

daughter, Katherine Hubbard, daughter of Elbert Hubbard, all went out to study the stars under the leadership of Prof Hutchinson. The planets are very near Colorado and Colorado librarians were thrilled to hear again some of the newer facts discovered about them.

Saturday morning was devoted to reports on school libraries and on coöperation between library and school as worked out in Denver. Gretna Waller, librarian of the Cheltenham school, told the story of the Library days for which the children at her school are given credit.

Governor Sweet's paper was stimulating to all librarians present, though addressed primarily to the school librarians. He declared for dynamic and lasting ideals, namely, open-mindedness and respect for all persons. Responsibility for inculcating these ideals in the rising generation lies in the home, the school and the library. The governor gave this tribute to books: "Books which I have read, particularly biography, have done more to stimulate my thought and shape my activities than any other influence in my life." He feels that "through wise counsel and suggestion as to reading, the librarian can make a lasting impression on the lives of adolescents and theirs is a great responsibility to the youth of the land."

After an interesting business session, new officers were elected as follows: Helen F. Ingersoll, supervisor of branches, Denver, president; Katharine Marvin, Sterling library, vice-president; Linda M. Clatworthy, University of Denver, secretary-treasurer; C. Henry Smith, University of Colorado, and Charlotte Baker, State agricultural college, members of Executive board.

Connecticut—The annual meeting of the Connecticut library association was held at the State agricultural college, Storrs, September 17-18. The librarians were welcomed by Charles L. Beach, president of the college, who told of its work, including the Experimental station and extension work, and by Edwina Whitney, college librarian, who presented some of the interesting features of the library.

Books and bulletins relating to agriculture, with particular reference to those

for rural libraries, were discussed by Prof W. E. Britton, New Haven experimental station. Lists of books and bulletins on agriculture prepared by Prof Britton were distributed. In an account of his recent five months' stay in Eastern Europe, H. M. Lydenberg, New York, said he found the people of that part of Europe hungry for a renewal of intellectual contact with the Western world and much interested in its educational and library methods.

The evening session was given over to a concert by the College music faculty and a talk by Clarinda C. Richards, New York, on the reconstruction work done by the Society of Friends following the return of the refugees from Russia.

At a business meeting on Thursday morning, H. N. Sanborn, Bridgeport, spoke on the Library survey and urged Connecticut librarians to do all in their power to make it a success. An invitation from the Eastern Massachusetts library association to meet with the New England and New York associations in a convention at Swampscott in June, 1925, was accepted and in view of this, the May meeting of the association will be a group meeting, preferably in the central part of the state.

Edith M. Phelps, of the H. W. Wilson Company, New York, reviewed some of the most recent Wilson publications, particularly the *Handbook* and *Standard Catalog* series, and Subject headings for small libraries. Censorship in the rural library was discussed by Caroline L. Jones, Wallingford, who believes that the public librarian is the best censor for his community and his most delicate task is the selection of fiction. The size of the book fund, the educational status and interests of the community should guide his choice. Howard Bradstreet, Hartford, in a talk on the Old library and the new population, told librarians how to be of help to the foreign-born who comprise one-third of Connecticut's population.

At the afternoon session, F. K. W. Drury, Providence, R. I., talked on Picking plays for amateurs, giving a number of points to be considered in choosing a

play and suggesting many aids in selection. Prof H. A. Sneckerson, Storrs, talked on the Little Theater movement and told of his work with the State college players. In a talk on the architecture of early New England churches, Dr Edmund W. Sinnott, Storrs, traced the evolution from the earliest structures, when they were meeting-house, storehouse and fort, to the time when they began to be really church-like, these changes paralleling changes in the lives of the people.

The following officers were elected: President, Edna H. Wilder, Middletown; vice-president, W. H. Bishop, Brooklyn; secretary, Greta Brown, New Britain; treasurer, Helena B. Alford, Hartford.

Iowa—The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the Iowa library association was held in Boone, October 1-3. It was the largest meeting of the association, there being 225 present. The weather was ideal, the hospitality of Boone could not be excelled, the spirit of the meeting cordial. Miss Wieder made a delightful president and the program was profitable and entertaining, "the best meeting ever," according to many in attendance.

The address of welcome was given by Mrs A. J. Barkley, president of the Boone library board. She paid tribute to Senator C. J. A. Ericson and his daughter for their gifts for the original library building and for the beautiful addition which was erected last year. Miss Isabella Hopper of Fort Dodge, a vice-president of the association, responded in a few happy words.

After a short business session, an address on Music appreciation and the library was given by Miss Fannie R. Buchanan of Grinnell, educational lecturer for the Victor Talking Machine Company, illustrated by Victrola records. She gave incidents from talks where the records which she now employs were used and the comments and opinions which she had heard from children, laborers, farmers and those not intimately acquainted with music. She made it plain to the librarians that what she did they could

do and the lives of many might be enriched by thus bringing music to them.

Following Miss Buchanan, Miss Frances Mason gave a short explanation of the beautiful color prints which adorned the library walls, loan exhibits from various places. She called attention to their good and bad points and showed other prints more or less desirable.

At the close of the afternoon session, tea was served, thus giving opportunity for conversation and the renewal of acquaintance.

In the evening, Dallas Lore Sharp spoke on the Magical chance which comes to everyone in opportunities which if seized result in development to the individual and benefit to the world. To adhere throughout life to the decorous and conventional, will often damage, kill or ignore the chances which otherwise might be utilized. He gave as examples of men who had made the escape, Dana, author of *Two years before the mast*, Jack London, Bret Harte, and others. The address was humorous as well as inspiring and was greatly enjoyed by the entire audience.

An informal reception followed in with the librarians were pleased to meet Mr Sharp as well as their own members.

Various groups met on Thursday morning for round-table discussions.

In the afternoon, Sheik Rafel Emmanuel of Mesopotamia gave information and entertainment in a charming manner on Folklore and songs of Chaldea. An address on the Why and how of county libraries by Miss Frances Hannum of Racine, Wisconsin, was most helpful because it was Miss Hannum's own experience at no very distant past and she endeavored to show to Iowa librarians that what had been done in Wisconsin might be done in Iowa.

A talk by Miss Frances Mason of Boone on Art and library posters was illustrated by posters furnished for the purpose. Miss Mason freely criticized these in showing good and bad art and violation of the principles of design which should govern poster making.

In the evening, the librarians were the guests of the Boone woman's club at a

lecture on Art and the community by Dudley Crafts Watson, Art Institute, Chicago. Mr Watson's plea was that the large amount of leisure which now comes to us through inventions and discoveries should be utilized in a manner which would enrich the lives of all. He showed first what inventions have done in bringing about this leisure and predicted that in time the working day would be reduced for all to a very few hours.

Friday morning, Miss Emily V. D. Miller, editor of the *Booklist*, spoke on To buy or not to buy, suggesting the later books which might be desirable for libraries but not yet in the *Booklist*. Miss Miller's address was enjoyable and helpful. At this time a list of fiction and non-fiction prepared by the Library commission was also distributed.

Following Miss Miller, Mrs Eva Cloud Taylor of Indianapolis, Indiana, a former children's librarian of Iowa, spoke on Present needs and opportunities in library work with children. Mrs Taylor's talk was logical and helpful.

The officers for the coming year are: President, Mary Rosemond, State library, Des Moines; first vice-president, Mary Egan, librarian, Clinton; second vice-president, Frances Mason, trustee, Boone; secretary, Elizabeth Walpole, librarian, Storm Lake; treasurer, Sadie Stevens, librarian, Carroll; registrar, Lucille Peterson, librarian, Estherville; member Certification board, Mrs Helen Gillilan, reference librarian, Waterloo.

Kansas—The annual meeting of the Kansas library association was held in Emporia, October 15-18.

The address of the president, Ida M. Day, Public library, Hutchinson, and reminiscences by various members of the progress of Kansas libraries for the past 25 years were most inspiring and interesting. Mrs E. H. Richardson, also of Hutchinson, who has been connected with school and library interests for more than 40 years, gave an excellent talk on what books have meant to her. She also related the origin and history of the "Coonskin library," which was kept in her father's home and was the first library in Ohio.

The entire program provided a veritable feast of practical ideas and plans as well as excellent entertainment features. Dean D. A. Hirschler of the College of Emporia gave an organ recital Wednesday evening and on Thursday afternoon, Winifred Parsons of the Department of public speaking, Kansas state teachers' college, gave a most illuminating address on modern poetry, with selected readings for illustration. Carl B. Roden, librarian, Public library, Chicago, gave a very interesting and helpful address on Adult education and led in the discussions on the duty and opportunity of Kansas libraries for the diffusion of knowledge, cooperation between public libraries and public schools, and library branches in school buildings.

Round-tables for the discussion of problems pertaining to work in large and small libraries and college and high-school libraries were held, to the great profit of all attending.

Willis H. Kerr, librarian, Kansas state teachers' college, extended many courtesies in behalf of his school, among them a concert by Chicago Grand Opera artists. The Department of visual instruction complimented the association by a presentation of the picture, *Little Lord Fauntleroy*.

Officers elected are: President, Earl N. Manchester, Lawrence; vice-president, Mrs Roberta McKowan, Chanute; secretary, Mrs Elsie H. Pine, Emporia, and treasurer, Odella Nation, Pittsburg.

Massachusetts—At the second library institute, held in Amherst, September 15-19, 14 librarians were guests of the Massachusetts library commission.

The morning sessions were devoted to technical instruction—cataloging and classification under Frances S. Wiggin, state organizer; book-mending under Miss Tillinghast, and reference material under Lena L. Oneal, City library, Springfield. Attendance at these sessions was limited to those for whom the work was planned.

The afternoon programs were more general in tone and were open to the public. Edna Phillips, in charge of work with foreigners, Massachusetts depart-

ment of education, gave an interesting survey of the History of reading and conducted a round-table on the Poles and their books. A general discussion developed among workers in social service among foreigners. E. Louise Jones, also of the Massachusetts department of education, held two round-tables for the discussion of general administrative problems. Agnes C. Cook, children's librarian, Public library, Worcester, talked on Children's books, past and present, and E. Kathleen Jones, Massachusetts department of education, commented on worth-while new books of the last nine months.

At the two evening meetings, E. Kathleen Jones told of library extension service to hospitals, prisons and ships, and Charles R. Green, Jones library, spoke on Local material and town archives.

One afternoon was given over to visits to Amherst libraries, the art gallery and homes of famous Americans in the vicinity.

Minnesota—The Twin City catalogers' round-table was held at the recent meeting of the Minnesota library association, September 24. The gathering was introduced by a luncheon attended by members of the Catalog group and 18 others. Helen K. Starr of the James J. Hill reference library, St. Paul, spoke entertainingly of her recent visit to old bookshops and famous libraries in England. Alice M. Humiston, recently come as head cataloger to the University of Minnesota historical society, humorously gave some impressions of the West upon her, an Easterner, contrasting the East and the West.

Mrs J. T. Jennings, St. Paul public library, served as chairman of the section meeting in the afternoon. Edna L. Goss, head cataloger, University of Minnesota library, described the process of moving the library's catalog from the old library to the new building just completed. The old catalog, which filled 760 drawers, was moved into the new catalog case of 1380 drawers by eight people in 48 hours.

Reports of the meetings of the various sections of A. L. A. at Saratoga were given: Amy C. Moon, St. Paul, Catalog section; Miss Carruthers, St. Paul, Col-

lege and Reference section; Mabel L. Abbott, Minneapolis, Music round-table; Clara M. Penfield, Minnesota historical society, Public Documents round-table.

Miss Rosholt, Minneapolis, described a day in the catalog department, in which she showed the routing of books in the Minneapolis public library, pointing out the variety of work passing across each desk. Jessie L. Arms, University of Minnesota, discussed changes and expansions in the Dewey decimal classification, dwelling on the various expansions of the eleventh or latest edition, now numbering 40,000 entries.

New Hampshire—A record attendance marked the recent meeting of the New Hampshire library association at Manchester, September 24-26, 142 being present. The opening address was made by President Willard P. Lewis, who spoke on the librarian as an educator, pointing out that an educator rather than an administrator is the real work of the librarian. The audience was delighted with an address by Margaret Widdemer who spoke of her work as a poet and novelist, giving an idea of how a literary genius works. She also read most pleasingly from her book, the *Tree with a bird in it*.

On Thursday morning, Frances Hobart, secretary of the New Hampshire library commission, held a round-table on helps for the small library. The afternoon session was devoted to the work, power and place of the library trustee. Hon. W. D. Hood, Winsted, Conn., pointed out the inter-relations of trustee and library; Mrs W. B. Fellows, Tilton, made a strong argument for women as library trustees; A. T. Dudley, Exeter, discussed the difficult problems of library trustees and Mrs M. B. Adams, Mason, pointed out the value of the catalog for the small library with a small staff. The latter part of the afternoon was devoted to a sight-seeing tour about the city, this courtesy being extended by the Manchester chamber of commerce.

Quite an occasion was made of the awarding of scholarships to librarians of smaller towns doing the most exceptional

work during the year. Martha E. Cutler, Peterborough, and Clara Garvin, Sanbornville, received the awards and attended the meeting as guests of the association. Grace E. Kingsland, Hanover, and Mrs Hattie M. Greenough, Langdon, received honorable mention.

At the evening session, magazines were discussed. Robert Bridges, editor of *Scribner's Magazine*, gave a most entertaining talk on the subject from the editor's standpoint, and F. R. Strong of the Rumford Press told some illuminating facts from the manufacturer's viewpoint.

The Friday morning session was devoted to discussion of children's literature. Frederick G. Melcher, managing editor of *Publishers' Weekly*, discussed Better books for children, and Alice I. Hazeltine, children's librarian, Providence, R. I., spoke on the relations of the library and the school.

Officers elected: President, Grace E. Kingsland, Howe library, Hanover; vice presidents, Nathaniel L. Goodrich, Dartmouth College library, Hanover, and Winifred Tuttle, City library, Manchester; secretary, Helen G. Cushing, University of New Hampshire library, Durham; treasurer, Helen C. Clark, Public library, Concord.

Ohio—The thirtieth annual meeting of the Ohio library association was held in Columbus, October 7-9. An attendance of 265, commodious and pleasant quarters for meetings and exhibits and sessions full of interest and practical suggestions combined to make this a most successful and pleasurable meeting.

Adult education was the leading subject of discussion. L. L. Dickerson, A. L. A. director of Adult education, in his address Tuesday evening, said that the present need and desire for education was a challenge to libraries and this challenge was an opportunity as well as a responsibility. That the library could respond to the call for service was shown by the work done in the war. The education of the past century is not adequate for this age of manufacture and science. The time will come when adult education will meet the need of every man and

woman in the state, and the library will be the most important agency. This task is too big for any individual library—all must work together. The A. L. A. desires to aid the libraries in every way possible in this work and asks for the coöperation of all libraries.

Further discussion of adult education occupied the Wednesday morning session. Mr Stauffer of Mt. Union College library spoke on the Home library. He said the home library was the basis of adult education and a means of instilling the love of books. He emphasized the responsibility of the public library in influencing people to buy books for themselves. A list of books for the home library, compiled by the speaker, was distributed and each one was asked to vote for 75 of the books listed. The result of the vote is to be published and will be of interest to many.

In the general discussion, the outstanding thought was the responsibility of the public library in the work of education.

The afternoon session was devoted to group meetings. The Ohio Valley and Western Reserve catalog groups held a meeting for the discussing of cataloging in high-school, county and special libraries.

Library publicity was the subject of a live and interesting meeting presided over by Miss Tarr of Youngstown.

At the School Libraries round-table, the service and value of the school library was discussed by both librarians and teachers.

The Small Libraries meeting, Thursday morning, was the most popular of the sectional meetings, even those of the larger libraries crowding in. How to best serve the community, what books to buy and when and how to bind these books, were some of the interesting questions discussed.

Of like interest and practical help were the other meetings of the morning—Larger Libraries round-table, Children's Librarians round-table and the College and Reference section.

At the closing session Thursday afternoon the report of H. S. Hirshberg, state librarian, showing the splendid work of

the state library as represented by the progress of library work over the state, was most interesting. New libraries established, better financial support for a number of libraries, and higher standards of service are a few of the accomplishments noted.

The afternoon was devoted to a summing up of the previous discussions on adult education. Considering the importance and greatness of the task before libraries, Chalmers Hadley, Cincinnati, most aptly suggested that this coming year librarians should educate themselves. Even a mechanic must know his tools, he said.

Officers were elected as follows: Anna M. Tarr, Youngstown, president; Helen Keeler, Cleveland Heights, Florence Hulings, Massillon, Ora Sheffield, Napoleon, vice-presidents; Bertha Schneider, Columbus, secretary; Marie A. Newberry, Toledo, treasurer.

The association dinner, Thursday evening, was the usual delightful occasion. At this time the winners of awards for exceptional work done in the smaller libraries of the state were introduced—Mrs B. C. Porter, Kinsman; Abbie O. Tolles, Burton; Mrs M. Belle Gilmore, Camden; Ora Sheffield, Napoleon; Julia Strubble, Bryan, and Mary Wilder, Circleville. These librarians were guests of the association at the meeting.

A fitting climax and close to the meeting of the association was the address by Prof Richard Burton, University of Minnesota, who spoke on Tendencies in current fiction.

JOSEPHINE LYTLE
Secretary

Cataloging

A luncheon attended by 42 catalogers opened the meeting in Columbus, October 8, of the Ohio Valley and Western Reserve catalog groups, the meeting being a session of the conference of the Ohio library association. Various types and phases of cataloging problems formed the topic of discussion.

Mary Helen Pooley, Cincinnati, in a most interesting paper on Selective cataloging for high-school libraries, made a plea for more recognition for the cata-

loger, and emphasized the fact that all librarians need more cataloging experience. The catalog is a vast store-house of information—its object is to make knowledge available to the public. But before it can function properly, the type of the using public must be known to the cataloger. The high-school reader would need a catalog suited to his limited type of mental experience—one which would provide him with sufficiently brief yet comprehensive material. He is the reader who demands complete facts in the briefest possible time. The catalog should stand for accuracy and thoroughness, and, though simple, should not incline too much to children's department methods. Do not build the catalog down to the pupil but rather educate the pupil up to the catalog. A catalog increases the reference value of books and one made for high-school students will contain many analytics rather than much bibliographical detail, and the subject headings will be carefully and suitably selected. The catalog is the key to the library and if properly made and used can help the library to really become an active teaching organism—but it must be fine and sharp if it is to work on the delicate mechanism that is the high-school pupil.

Cataloging for county library work was discussed by Corinne A. Metz, Ft. Wayne, Ind., who divided the work of a county library into two parts—that done in large city districts, as sharply contrasted with that of the rural sections. For the latter type, Miss Metz contends that a shelf-list of all books in the county system, together with place records showing where the books are located, is sufficient; that a full catalog is not needed; that the work done depends on the breadth and vision of the staff and board, who will accomplish the most and best with a simple catalog and simple subject headings, if a catalog is found necessary. A catalog must be simplified to meet the needs of the people who use it, and Miss Metz contends that a set pattern is not needed for branch collections, that annotated lists are much more useful than a file of cards.

Julian Smith of the B. F. Goodrich Company, Akron, presented the cataloging problems of an industrial research library. He advocated the use of separate catalogs for subjects which must be extensively analyzed, and suggested the using of colored cards for catalogs of patents, government publications, etc. The field of such a highly specialized library presents many problems different from that of the one devoted to the general reader.

The White Folklore and Orientalia collection of the Cleveland public library was discussed by Gordon W. Thayer. Mr White each year increases the number and amount of his gifts until they now form a very extensive collection on Oriental subjects, folklore, proverbs, witchcraft and gypsies. Mr Thayer had with him a number of representative books from the collection and told some interesting items concerning them.

Ruth Wallace, Indianapolis, conducted a question box. The following items were discussed:

Should subject headings for branches be the same as for main library, or simpler?

Should classification of branch books differ from that at Central?

Desirability of cooperative cataloging for small libraries (not yet tried by anyone).

How may *see also* references for branches be taken care of at Central?

How to shelve foreign language books—By language or with subject in general classification?

How to revise a public catalog which lacks uniformity in its entries and filing.

The report of the meeting of the Advisory council of regional groups at Saratoga Springs was presented by Sophie K. Hiss, Cleveland. The chief discussion related to extension of the organizations of catalogers' groups throughout the country. Mrs Jennie T. Jennings, St. Paul, Minn., was made chairman of a committee on the formation of Regional groups. The functions of this council are as follows:

- 1) Collect and forward suggestions for programs for catalog groups.
- 2) Act as a clearing house for the groups of special questions or pieces of work, etc.
- 3) Bring about the affiliation of regional groups with the A. L. A. catalog section.

ETHEL L. HUTCHINS
Secretary *pro tem*

Vermont—The annual meeting of the Vermont librarians opened at St. Johnsbury, September 23, with a "Get-together" supper which proved a delightful social occasion to the 60 persons present.

H. H. B. Meyer, president of the A. L. A., gave a stimulating address on the Library and adult education. Mr Meyer insisted that only by intelligence can civilization maintain itself, and, while the library cannot create intelligence, it can develop and train it through the use of the resources at its command.

Mrs F. D. Chatterton, president of the V. L. A., presided on Wednesday.

After the transaction of business, reports of various meetings were given. C. H. Dempsey, state commissioner of education, outlined the school needs in the way of literature, calling attention to the contributions which the library might make to the school. He emphasized the placing of the right books within easy access of the children and gave many helpful suggestions for a closer coöperation between the school and the library. The talk was thought-provoking and was followed by a lively discussion of the problems involved.

In the afternoon an enjoyable automobile trip was given by the Rotary club of St. Johnsbury, and a visit made to the Fairbanks Natural History museum with its wealth of interesting material. Tea was served and a social hour added to the pleasure of the guests.

"About boys' books—perhaps" was the subject of the evening address by Walter Pritchard Eaton. Mr Eaton deprecated the prevailing tendency (discovered at the A. L. A. meeting) of children's librarians to include in lists of recommended books for boys only "blood-thirsty" and adventurous tales far removed from human experience. He said that boys need no prodding to indulge in such stimulus to the imagination, nor do they achieve imagination by running away from the facts of life, but by facing them. His plea was for more school and Boy Scout stories showing high ideals of conduct and codes of leadership—books that call the boy's knowledge of the real

world about him into play. The question of mental dope or mental muscle might be solved by offering a wide variety of good, true and beautiful books, trusting that the spark might be kindled as the boy finds the book to suit his individual need.

The Thursday meeting was conducted by Miss Mildred C. Cook, the new secretary of the Public Library department of the Board of education.

Priscilla Bancroft of Proctor, speaking on Publicity, urged more intimate knowledge of and personal interest in the patrons of the library and offered many practical suggestions for bringing the knowledge of the library to the community.

Alice I. Hazeltine, children's librarian of Providence, R. I., spoke of the educational force of the home, the school and the library. She asked individuals who are inclined to think of books as too expensive for purchase to remember that they are investments on which big returns may be realized, and to acquire them even if the cost is high. The placing of the central interest in books in the home would make for *real* lovers of *real* books. Companionship with good books means the enlargement of the circumference of the individual world which each must make for himself.

Officers for the coming year:

President, Florence L. Pratt, Brattleboro; vice-president, Ellen Brown, Norwich University library, Northfield; secretary and treasurer, Priscilla Bancroft, Proctor.

IVA M. YOUNG

Coming meetings

The twelfth annual conference of Eastern college librarians will be held at Columbia university, New York City, November 29.

Education week will be observed November 17-23.

The Midwinter meeting of the A. L. A. will be held in Chicago, January 1-2, 1925.

The Virginia library association will meet at the Jefferson hotel, Richmond, November 25-26.

Interesting Things in Print

The Lewis and Clark high school, Spokane, Wash., has issued a pamphlet—Books for home reading—for use in its English department.

An interesting handbook on the use of the college library has been issued by Earlham college, Richmond, Ind., under the title, *The Library: A handbook for students*.

Technical books of 1923, issued by Pratt Institute free library, has appeared in a selected list. Mr Donald Hendry, head of the Applied Science department, made the compilation.

A reference tool that will doubtless be of value in every library is *Index to illustrations*, compiled by Frederick J. Shepard of the Public library, Buffalo, N. Y., and published by the A. L. A.

The University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, has issued a new edition of its library handbook. The librarian will be pleased to mail a copy of the handbook to any organization desiring it.

A revised edition of *List of publications issued by the National league of women voters* was issued in September. This may be had from the league's headquarters, 532 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

A cut of the book truck used by the Public library, Kansas City, Mo., illustrated an advertisement of the General Motors Truck Company of that city, which appeared in a recent issue of the *Kansas City Star*.

The August number of the *Ontario Library Review* is a very fine one, as are the others of this excellent library periodical. Its *Book-Selection Guide* section is admirable. Since it is published by the Ontario department of education, it cannot be accused of being prejudiced.

A pamphlet of 55 pages setting out opportunities for adult education in Greater Boston through free public lectures and public educational courses has been issued by the Boston public library. As a document relating to adult education, the pamphlet is full of suggestions.

Federal income tax laws for 1924, a digest of new provisions and copy of the law, has been issued in pamphlet form by A. C. Allyn & Company, Chicago. This subject is one of perpetual interest and the pamphlet of more than 100 pages, with index, is a valuable tool to have at hand. It may be had free on request.

A pamphlet, *Books as gifts*, has been issued by the A. L. A., the books classified first as to form—recent fiction, recent poetry, and then books for amateurs, for idlers, for inquiring minds, for dwellers in the past, for tired minds, for stay-at-homes, for vagabond minds, for the commuter, and for thinkers. This little pamphlet ought to solve many problems which spring up perennially at this time.

Among the many useful pamphlets which the A. L. A. continues to send out are the following recent publications: *Books and pamphlets on library work*; *One thousand useful books*, compiled by the Public library, Detroit, Mich., and the *Public library building plan* by John A. Lowe of the Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y., a reprint of an article appearing in the *Architectural Forum* (Ja, F '24.).

An interesting document that will undoubtedly prove of value in a reference collection is that published by the Library committee of the Catholic Club, New York City (120 Central Park, South), *Testimony of history for the Roman Catholic church*. The pamphlet treats of the schisms thru which the church has passed, treated for the most part by noted historians.

A complete and very clear exposition of the proposed amendment to the constitution relating to Federal child labor has been prepared by the Women's committee for the Children's amendment, representing 18 national organizations. A limited number of copies are available for free distribution to public libraries and may be had by application to the secretary of the committee, Mrs Glenn L. Swiggert, The Mendota, Washington, D. C.

Bulletin No. 1 of the new reference service on International affairs that is being offered by the American library in

Paris gives definite information on the present status of the postwar settlement. Definite statements with regard to various treaties relating to international matters down to March, 1924, are given. Denys P. Myers is organizing director of the service which is carried on from the American library in Paris, 10, rue de l'Elysée, Paris.

The *City Ice Man*, a monthly publication of the City Ice Company, Kansas City, Mo., for September, contains a most informing article on the city's Public library. A short history of the library since its evolution from a subscription library to a public library, in 1898, with notes on the library's "branch offices," makes a very interesting presentation. The following statistics tell the story of the library's activity: Borrowers, 101,005; volumes in library, 373,417; circulation—books for home use, 1,328,522; mounted pictures, 47,889; music rolls, 1452.

What is termed the *Unbounded Anthology* is being published by the Poets' Guild. This is made up of collections of poems printed on separate sheets for lovers of poetry interested in compiling their own anthology. These will appeal to librarians as good bulletin board material or material for lending to schools and of course, wide personal use can be made of them, also.

The Poets' Guild is a group of writers "banded together, not for literary purposes, but because they are interested in community service." Their activities focus at Christodora house, one of the neighborhood houses of New York City. Among its members are Edwin Markham, Josephine Preston Peabody, Witter Bynner, Ridgley Torrence, Margaret Widdemer, Percy MacKaye, Fannie Stearns Davis, Edwin Arlington Robinson, Sara Teasdale, Charles Hanson Towne, Cale Young Rice, Herman Hagedorn, Abbie Farwell Brown and Robert Frost.

The proceeds of the *Unbound Anthology* are to be devoted to the Poets' house, an Arts community center for neighborhood work. Single poems are priced at five cents—a few are more.

A new venture in book reviewing has been undertaken by the New York *Herald Tribune* in setting aside a part of its regular Sunday edition under the title, *Books*. *Books* will be issued also as a separate publication under the title, *Books, A review of contemporary literature*. The new publication will be edited by Stuart P. Sherman who has already caught the attention and admiration of a multitude of readers as well as another multitude of those who have heard him in his class work at the University of Illinois and on the lecture platform. Irita Van Doren, who was for some time book editor of the *Nation*, will be associate editor. Anne Carroll Moore, who needs no introduction to librarians, will conduct a special department for children's books.

This coterie of editors will insure a book review that will have authority of statement and impartiality of judgment concerning the books that are coming so rapidly from the press. Books will be reviewed under assignment by men and women who are experts in the matters discussed.

Books

A new volume on library buildings by Chalmers Hadley, librarian of the Public library, Cincinnati, O., contains notes and plans sufficient to fill more than 150 pages. The volume is profusely illustrated with interior and exterior views and should furnish valuable suggestions for buildings and arrangements.

The life of Dr William T. Harris, who contributed much to the library movement as superintendent of schools at St. Louis and later as U. S. commissioner of education, is to be published, November 1, by the National Education Association under the title William Torey Harris: His philosophical and educational views, by Dr John S. Roberts, New York City. Cloth bound volume; price \$2.

Materials of reading: Their selection and organization, by Willis L. Uhl, Ph.D., associate professor of education, University of Wisconsin, has been issued by Silver, Burdett & Company. While the book is intended primarily for teachers,

those who are studying children's reading will find valuable material in the chapters on formulation of standards and objectives in reading, the social worth of reading and children's interest in reading.

The Library and the community: Community studies and library publicity, by Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian, Public library, Youngstown, O., a recent publication of the A. L. A., is a very heavy volume of more than 400 pages, containing information on this important subject in form and substance in Mr Wheeler's well known style of presentation. Every phase of library work passes under Mr Wheeler's judgment as to how it ought to be presented. Every part of the field seems to have been covered. The appendix gives accounts of 31 campaigns in various parts of the country and will doubtless furnish suggestions for any one who has "been bitten by the booming bee."

A recent volume which is of interest and value is Publicity for public libraries—Principles and methods, by Gilbert O. Ward, technical librarian, Public library, Cleveland, O. The book, issued by the H. W. Wilson Company, New York, contains sound and practical discussions which, written in the form of directions, will be of unusual help for everyone engaged in library work. The chapters on how to put on campaigns, outdoor, direct and miscellaneous methods, displays and exhibits, signs and posters, statistics, and especially library printing and printing economies, are full of valuable material.

Quite a bit of this material first appeared in print in the pages of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The H. W. Wilson Company, New York, has arranged for the sale and distribution of R. D. MacLeod's County rural libraries in this country. (See p. 467.) This is a 1923 volume but is one which contains a mine of information on every phase of county rural libraries. Its chief theme is the policy and organization of county libraries supported by the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust but it refers constantly to things that have to do with county library work

in America. This is a volume which should be in the hands of everyone at all interested in the subject. The work as it is carried on in the British Isles is explained, some of the weaknesses in the system pointed out and instructions as to administration clearly stated.

A beautiful bit of bookmaking is the volume recently issued by the American Library Association—John Shaw Billings, creator of the National medical library and its catalog, and first director of the New York public library. The volume was prepared by Harry M. Lydenberg, chief reference librarian of the New York public library, and an assistant who held intimate personal and professional relations with Dr Billings.

Dr Billings was one of the few interesting men who laid the foundations broad and deep for librarianship as a distinguished profession. He had arrived at distinction in another profession before he became engaged in the library field and, indeed, his entrance into actual librarianship came through his contributions first as a surgeon and the need he felt as such for organization of the literature relating to his work. He was an interesting man in every relationship and since Mr Lydenberg has a rare gift of expression, these two facts, together with the personal feeling the author had for his subject, combine to give the contents of this first volume of the *American Library Pioneers Series* a rare charm and pleasure in its reading.

A very helpful volume for those who want accurate information on the literature of home and family life is the Guide prepared by Annie Isabel Robertson, A. M., and published last spring by the J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. This is a classified bibliography of 284 pp., with use and content annotations. If any subject was omitted in the compilation, a careful scrutiny and many trials failed to discover it. Every phase of domestic science receives careful consideration.

The long and varied experience and consequent study of Miss Robertson gave her a breadth of vision as to what was needed in such a volume and the benefit

of much preparation is everywhere evident. The long list of those who assisted her is likewise an earnest of the value of the material the book contains. Among these are a number of the best library workers.

The suggestive sketches and the clever annotations are real additions to the book, not "fillers."

This Guide seems indispensable for any library, large or small, as every line of its contents carries information that is in constant demand in every library. The seven appendices carry further valuable information in regard to where, from whom and how books and printed material may be obtained, descriptive notes and author and subject indexes.

Altogether, Guide to literature of home and family life is a fitting companion for other guides on the Lippincott list.

Finally "Nicholas" has made his appearance under the title, *Nicholas: A Manhattan Christmas story*, by Anne Carroll Moore. A Manhattan Christmas story is in itself intriguing, but with the superscription, "By Anne Carroll Moore," one settles back with a smile and says, "Now for pleasure!"

Miss Moore's friends have known for some times that Nicholas had obsessed his producer and she confesses in a recent number of the *Bookman* that after the wonderful adventures of Christmas week through which she took Nicholas with his map, he was not willing to subside but thought of many other ventures through which he wished to pass, and that Nicholas has only begun his absorption. That he is bound to produce forthcoming adventures is a foregone conclusion.

This Manhattan Christmas story will be a most welcome volume for those who, like Peter Pan, still "do believe in fairies." Nicholas will be a welcome visitor to many a household and for this not only will librarians but parents as well be grateful to Miss Moore.

The illustrations in *Nicholas*, by Jay Van Everen, are most delightful. The map which forms the end papers of the volume will furnish hours of amusement for many who would hardly own to being

users of the children's room. "The coming of Nicholas," an illustration in colors, is very Christmasy, and the story of his Christmas fully justifies all that has been said of him.

Books on Child Welfare

At this time when librarians are making up lists for Children's book week, they may find the following list useful. I have had many requests for such a list from teachers and nurses as well as from mothers.

Here at the Elizabeth McCormick memorial fund, we have a special Child Welfare library of several thousand books and pamphlets, as well as the standard periodicals covering the field. We maintain also a library service which is being used over the country generally by teachers, social workers, physicians and club women. We are very happy to extend to librarians an invitation to use us in any way that we can serve them. The library is being built to cover all phases of child welfare. Some of our main subjects are: Mental hygiene and child psychology; care and training of children; child labor; children—charities, protection, etc., nutrition; health education in schools; school health and hygiene, including open-air schools and school medical inspection; mothercraft, etc.

This is the first special Child Welfare library in the country and is unique in many ways. The Elizabeth McCormick memorial fund has been recognized for many years as a leading child welfare organization and the library is one of its newer fields of service.

Children's health shelf

- American Child Health association, 370 Seventh Ave., N. Y. City
- Child health alphabet
- Child health railroad—Healthland flyer
- Cho Cho and the health fairy
- Parody sport book
- Rosy Cheeks and Strong Heart
- Health plays for school children
- Andress, James M.
- The boys and girls of Wake-up town. 218p. illus. Boston, Ginn. c'24
- Andress, James M., and Andress, Annie T.
- A journey to healthland. 194p. illus. Boston, Ginn. c'24

- Bailey, Roy R.
Sure Pop and the Safety scouts. World bk. Co. '18
- Boothe, Stella, and Carter, Olive L.
Mary Gay stories. 119p. illus. N. Y., World bk. Co. '24
- Broadhurst, Jean
All thru the day the Mother Goose way. Lippincott, '21
- Cavanor, Hayle C.
The tooth-brush man's own book. 39p. illus. Minneapolis, Arrow pub. Co. '23
- Dansdill, Theresa
Health training in schools. National Tuberculosis Assn., 370 Seventh Ave., N. Y. City. Contains a section of delightful health stories
- Ferguson, H. W.
Child's book of the teeth. World bk. Co. '22
- Gordon, Elizabeth
Mother Earth's children. 95p. illus. Chicago, Volland. c'14
- Gulick Hygiene series
1) The body at work
2) Control of body and mind
3) Physiology, hygiene and sanitation
4) Town and city
- Hallock & Winslow
Land of health. Merrill Co. '22
- Haviland, Mary S.
Good neighbors. Nat'l. Child Welfare Federation. Lippincott.
Most wonderful house in the world. Nat'l. Child Welfare Federation. Lippincott
The play-house. Nat'l. Child Welfare Federation. Lippincott
- Herben, Beatrice S.
Jack O'Health and Peg O'Joy. Scrib. '21
- Jones, May F.
Keep-well stories for little folks. Lipp. '16
- Louisville (Ky.) board of health
Health plays, games and assemblies, by Louisville school children
- McCrillis, Jessie van Heyson
Fairy game. '21. Play for children
Milk fairies. '19. Play for children
- Mitchell, Lucy S.
Here and now story book. 360p. Dutton. '21
- National Dairy Council, 910 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago
Posters and literature for distribution
- O'Shea & Kellogg. Macmillan, '21. N. Y. City
Book 1) Health habits
Book 2) Health and cleanliness
Book 3) The body in health
Book 4) Making the most of life
- Richards, Laura
Pig brother. Little Brown & Co., N. Y. City
- Roberts, Lydia J.
From Danger Valley to Safety Hill (Health play). Univ. of Chicago Press
- Turner, C. E., and Collins, Georgie B.
Health. 209p. Boston. Heath. c'24
- U. S. Children's bureau (Wash.)
Brief manual of games for organized play by Martha T. Speakman. Bureau publication No. 113. '23

- Walton School, Philadelphia, Penn.
Mother Goose milk rhymes (pictures to be colored)
- Wedgewood, Harriet
Sleep. (U. S. bur. education, Wash., Bulletin No. 13, *Health Education Series*)
- Winslow, C. E. A.
Healthy living. Books 1 and 2. Merrill Co.
MRS MARY W. TAYLOR
Librarian
Elizabeth McCormick Memorial Fund
848 N. Dearborn St., Chicago

Recent Humor

- Ade. Single blessedness
- Baxter, J. E. Locker room ballads
- Belloc, H. Bad child's book of beasts
- Birdwood, W. D. Euclid's outline of sex
- Chappell, E. S. Sarah of the Sahara
- Clemens, S. L. Europe and elsewhere
- Cobb, I. S. Laugh a day keeps the doctor away
- Dayton, K. Loose leaves
- Irwin, W. A. More letters of a Japanese schoolboy
- Herford, O. Neither here nor there
— Poems from *Life*
- Leacock, S. College days
— Over the footlights
- Lucas, E. V. You know what people are
- Mackall, L. Bizarre
- Pain, B. E. O. If winter don't
- Phillips, H. I. Globe trotter
- Robinson, W. H. Humors of golf
- Stewart, D. O. Aunt Polly's story of mankind
— Perfect behavior
- Van Loot, C. O., pseud. Collector's whatnot
- Wells, C., ed. Outline of humor
Bulletin, Public library, Berkeley, Cal.

Story-Telling Ballads

Selected and arranged for story-telling and reading aloud and for the boys' and girls' own reading, by Frances Jenkins Olcott. Houghton, 1920.

The anthology contains 77 of the ancient ballads and narrative poems such as were sung by minstrels and recited by gaffers and gamblers in days of old.—*Readers' Ink.*

The National Research council, Washington, D. C., has discontinued its research information service to the general public, this service now being restricted to furnishing information bearing on research problems in the physical and biological sciences and their respective technologies to scientific investigators and to librarians only.

Library Schools**Drexel Institute**

The Drexel library school opened, September 22, with 22 students enrolled. An analysis of the present class shows that the students come from the states of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia and South Dakota, representing the following colleges: Smith, Bryn Mawr, Swarthmore, Wilson, Trinity, Elmira, Juniata and St. Joseph's. Students having one or more years of college work have been received from the University of Michigan, Cornell university, Ursinus college and Mount St. Vincent college. Two of the students are graduates of normal schools and seven have had library experience.

Caroline B. Perkins, treasurer of the Alumni association, has worked indefatigably for the establishment of the Kroeger Memorial scholarship. The first recipient of this was Gladys E. Seymour, '24, who is at present taking the course in children's work at the Cleveland public library. The scholarship for the class of 1925 has been awarded to Virginia Laws Coleman, graduate of Swarthmore college, '21.

The students had the pleasure of hearing Mrs May Lamberton Becker discuss new novels, October 2. On October 7 Mr MacDonald, professor of English at Drexel, lectured on a bibliography of anthologies.

The following appointments have been made recently:

Agnes Auten, '24, assistant, adult department, Olivia Raney library, Raleigh, N. C.

Marion H. Hall, '23, assistant to librarian, Engineering library, American Telephone & Telegraph Company, New York City.

Jane F. Hindman, '24, assistant to librarian, South Philadelphia high school for girls, Philadelphia.

Kathryn C. Keppelman, '24, assistant, Carnegie library, Pennsylvania state college.

Ruth L. Pollock, '24, assistant cataloger, Free public library, Decatur, Ill.

Letitia E. Pool, '24, librarian, Public library, Milton.

Susanne C. Root, '24, librarian, High school, Boyertown.

Margaret M. Spillan, '23, reviser, Drexel library school.

Elizabeth S. Stewart, '23, is studying children's work in the Cleveland public library.

Marie A. Simon, '23, was married in August to Harvey Spencer Goff of Wilmington.

The Board of education for librarianship visited the school October 29.

ANNE W. HOWLAND
Director

University of Illinois

The school year of 1924-25 opened, September 24. The registration this year is somewhat increased, including 33 juniors and 17 seniors.

In the junior class the following states are represented: Illinois 6, Iowa 1, Indiana 3, Minnesota 4, Nebraska 2, Ohio 1, New York 1, Missouri 4, Arkansas 1, Oregon 1, South Dakota 1, Oklahoma 2, Georgia 1, West Virginia 1, Michigan 2, Maryland 1, and one student from Armenia.

The senior class represents the following states: Illinois 7, Ohio 1, Nebraska 1, Missouri 1, Washington 1, Minnesota 2, Kentucky 1, South Dakota 1, and one each from Denmark and China.

The members of the junior class received their academic training in 25 different universities and colleges. Five students hold the Master's degree.

The personnel of the faculty remains unchanged with one exception, Ruth Forbes Eliot succeeds Miss Felsenthal.

Six students registered previous to 1923 have returned to complete their work for the B. L. S. degree: Alice L. Beach, '14-15; Flora E. Hottes, '20-21; William B. Hunt, '17-18; Helen G. More, '22-23; Grace Palmer, '17-18, and '21; Edwin Pfutzenreuter, '22-23.

The seniors gave a get-acquainted party for the juniors on the afternoon of October 8, which was very successful.

FRANCES SIMPSON
Assistant director

Los Angeles public library

The school opened, September 22, with a class of 35 regular and four special students. The majority of the class are college graduates, 14 different colleges being represented. One student comes from Christiania, Norway. Of the students, 19 have had one year or more of library experience.

Alice C. Mooney, '23, has joined the faculty as instructor in classification and

special advisor for the intermediates. Additional emphasis will be laid on the study of the L. C. classification under Mrs Taylor's direction. The elective course in children's work, under Mrs Case, has been expanded.

Chester M. Cate, recently appointed librarian of the Huntington library, will lecture on incunabula. He plans a seminar in that library, which now contains the largest collection of incunabula in this country. Other members of the Huntington library will give their usual lectures in the Book history course.

MARION HORTON
Principal

New York public library

The enrollment of students for 1924-25 shows a small increase over that of 1923, there being exactly 40 in the new class—eight from New York City, six from other points in New York state, four from New Jersey, three from Colorado, one each from Alabama, Florida, Kansas, California, Indiana, West Virginia, Virginia, Minnesota, Connecticut, Washington, South Carolina, Massachusetts, Texas and Iowa; also two from Canada and one each from China, Norway and Scotland. Three of those registered from New York City are of Russian birth.

The new class has been introduced to the Central building of the New York public library and has begun its visits to other points of professional interest in the New York district, one afternoon having been spent at the New Rochelle public library and another at the Newark public library. The work started off in an excellent spirit.

A readjustment of the curriculum is planned for this year whereby the major part of the work in book selection is scheduled for the first semester and the greatest emphasis on administrative matters is left for the second semester. This arrangement is made partly with a view to the schedule of visiting lecturers, but should result in a more satisfactory concentration upon the subjects mentioned in particular periods of the year.

ERNEST J. REECE
Principal

New York state library

Enrolment for the year numbers 56 students in the regular course and 21 in the teacher-librarian course which is conducted jointly with the State college for teachers. Of the regular students, 20 are in the senior class, 28 in the junior class and eight are taking partial work with one or both classes; 12 have full time or part time positions in the State library and three in the local public and college libraries. Sixteen states are represented (New York, 24), British Columbia and Norway.

Three former students, Bessie M. Landfear, Dorothy Brown and Elsa R. Nordin, have returned to complete the course after intervals devoted to practical work.

The school greatly regrets the loss of three members of its faculty and instructional staff. Elizabeth M. Smith resigned to join the A. L. A. board of education for librarianship, Mildred H. Pope to accept the librarianship of Girard college for boys, Philadelphia, and Sabra W. Vought to become librarian of the Pennsylvania state college.

The funds provided by the Alumni association for an additional instructor for the school will be devoted this year to four lectureships during the second semester. Joseph L. Wheeler will conduct the senior course on administration; Martha Wilson the senior elective course on school libraries; Zaidee Brown the junior courses on administration, loan work and order and accession work; William F. Yust the junior course on library buildings.

The two classes have completed their organization with the election of the following officers: Class of '25: President, Kenneth J. Boyer; secretary-treasurer, Edward F. Rowse. Class of '26: President, Annie R. O'Brien; vice president, James Brewster; secretary-treasurer, Helen H. Miller.

T. C. Tai, '18, librarian of Tsing Hua college, Peking, and Mrs Tai (Julie Rummelhoff, '19) returned to this country in September for a year of study and research. Mrs Tai has joined the cataloging staff, University of Iowa, and Mr Tai will pursue special studies there and elsewhere.

Esther Betz, '24, is at Ann Arbor, Mich., recovering from a serious illness.

EDNA M. SANDERSON

Pratt Institute

The class of 1925 has had many vicissitudes since it was originally made up in June, there having been seven withdrawals. Fortunately, this was balanced by a number of excellent applications and the school opened, September 29, with 25 students, the usual quota. So many who applied for admission to the 1925 class have asked to be transferred to 1926 that that class has now applications for nearly one-half its enrollment.

Geographically, the class of 1925 includes eight from New York state, four from New Jersey, three from Nebraska, two from Canada, and one each from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Georgia, Missouri, California and France.

Of the class, 17 have had library experience, one head cataloger, two branch librarians and one high-school librarian being among the number; five have taught, three have been in business, one has been in museum work, and only one has come straight from college; 11 are graduates of accredited colleges; five have had some college work, four have attended private schools and four are high-school graduates. All those whose schooling has not gone beyond high school have had valuable experience, mostly in library work, that will qualify them to make good in the school and in the profession hereafter.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE
Vice-director

St. Louis public library

An enrollment of 27 for the class of 1925, which opens the school's eighth year, is the largest in its history and the school is filled to capacity. It has been necessary to add to the equipment and to employ a third full-time assistant. More college graduates have entered the school this year than ever before, all the class but seven having had full or partial college training, and four of these seven have had one or more year's library experience. The school is constantly receiving requests from superintendents of schools and head librarians for trained assistants. These indicate that the school

library field is the portion of library work now experiencing the most rapid development.

A thousand copies of the list, Books for social workers, compiled and annotated by the class of '24 at the request of the local Community council, have been sent out to social workers by Director Street of the council.

A. E. B.

Simmons college

The college registration of students who are definitely preparing for library work is 131, which equals our previous high record of 1921. They are enrolled in the library school but 89 of them are still in the earlier college years and are not as yet carrying any technical library science courses. The other 42 form the group which is carrying the Library Science course; 17 are seniors; 21 are women who have received their academic education in other colleges; four are special students, carrying the full one-year course.

The geographical distribution is wide, with slightly over half from New England—15 from Massachusetts, two each from Maine and Connecticut, one each from New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont; Pennsylvania and New York, four each; Michigan and Colorado, two each; Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas and Virginia, one each; Porto Rico, one.

The first visitor of the year was Isabel DuBois, director of libraries, U. S. navy, who spoke, September 30, on library work in the Navy.

During the summer, the senior students have all had at least a fortnight of observation and practice in libraries, and their written reports were presented October 1. On October 9 they all met rather informally to give five-minute oral sketches of their most vivid impressions of their experiences. From the book wagon of Hagerstown to a gold mining town in South Dakota, we got a cross section of library life and, at the tea which followed, had a chance to meet socially after our summer separation.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY
Director

University of Texas

Classes began, September 24, with a registration of 27 students, five of whom are graduate students, five seniors and two special students. Of the entering group, eight rank as juniors, two as seniors, three as graduates and four as special students.

An additional course has been added to the four already established. This addition permits the separation of library economy and library administration, and of history of libraries and history of printing and book-making, and the addition of a much needed course in children's literature and work with children.

ELVA L. BASCOM
Chairman

University of Washington

The largest class in the history of the school registered at the beginning of the fall quarter in October. The class numbers 34, with 17 graduate students.

Sarah Virginia Lewis, superintendent of circulation, Seattle public library, will teach the classes in book selection, and Anne E. Hall, also of the Seattle public library, will teach the course in children's literature and methods of work with children.

Agnes Peterson, '22, has resigned her position in the University of Idaho library and accepted the position of high-school librarian at Boise, Idaho.

Rosamond McCredy, '23, has been appointed assistant in the Public library, Hoquiam.

Weyana Lopp, '20, is loan desk assistant in the Ventura county library, Ventura, Cal.

Avery Weage, '22, has been appointed librarian of Albany college, Albany, Ore.

W. E. HENRY
Director

Western Reserve university

The physical limitations of the school as to seating capacity are so definite that capacity is reached in the enrollment of students for 1924-25. In the general course, 32 students are registered, and 16 in the special course in library work with children. Of the students in the general course, 11 have the degree of A. B.; in the course in library work with children, three hold an A. B. degree and one the B. S.; eight of these students have taken general library courses either in this school or other library schools.

The colleges and universities represented by the entire student group, either with degrees or one or more years of college work are: Muskingum college, Florida state college for women, Wilson college, New York state college, University of Cincinnati, Ohio state university, Smith college, Vassar college, Ohio Wesleyan university, Des Moines university, University of Nebraska, Drake university, Bergen (Norway) Cathedral school, and College for women, Western Reserve university. Five students are in the combined course, from the College for women, the year of library training being recognized by the College for women as the equivalent of the senior year, leading to the B. S. degree.

The faculty is the same as last year except that Bessie H. Shepard, head of the reference division, Cleveland public library, who has given the course in reference work for several years, found it impossible to continue on the faculty because of her duties in the Cleveland public library. The reference course will be given this year by Edith C. Lawrence, who was added to the faculty last year and who gives the course in classification. Miss Shepard's connection with the school has been highly appreciated and her resignation received with great regret.

Sarah A. Thomas, '10, is state library organizer, Michigan state library, Lansing.

Mildred Van Schoick Watson, '13, is assistant in order department, Ohio State University library, Columbus.

Marjorie A. Borne, '18, is reference assistant, Cleveland public library.

Evelyn Yeaton, '22, is librarian, Public library, Lorain.

Anna L. Whitmack, '22, is librarian, Public library, Wilmette, Ill.

Barbara Brumbaugh, '23, is reference assistant, Columbia University library, New York City.

Alice Beer, '23, was married to Prof John R. Moore, of Indiana state university, August 26.

ALICE S. TYLER
Director

University of Wisconsin

The 1924-25 class of the library school has a capacity registration of 37 with representation from 12 states and two foreign countries—14 from Wisconsin, six from Illinois, three each from Indiana

and Iowa, two from Nebraska, and one each from California, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, Canada and Norway.

There are 16 graduate students, several of whom came with academic honors, and three seniors who are taking the joint course, so at commencement time there will be 19 with bachelor's degrees. Others of the class excellently met the entrance requirements established for non-college graduates. The class brings a good background of library experience and a number have had other good experience, such as teaching, business, social work, etc., while a large group have broadened their vision by travel.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE
Preceptor

Boston study class

The Boston public library announces the opening of its courses of study for its assistants for the current year, there being four of these: 1) a course in the great literary classics, ancient, mediaeval and renaissance, 30 lectures given by Prof R. E. Rogers of the Massachusetts Institute of technology; 2) an advanced course in Italian, by Eleanor M. Colleton, arranged with the coöperation of the Division of University extension, and a continuation of work begun by Miss Colleton last year; 3) course in children's literature by Alice M. Jordan; 4) a course for assistants doing reference work, in charge of Frank H. Chase.

Library time will be granted to those who take the complete course including the examination.

A special fee will be made for members of the staff of the Boston public library in each group of eight lectures, so that the expense of the entire course for them will be only three dollars. The library will provide for the use of its employees, copies of the prescribed textbooks. The course will be under the direction of the librarian, Charles F. D. Belden.

The course in the great classics of literature, given under the Division of University extension of the State department of education, is open to the general public as well as to library workers.

International Book Fair

The second International book fair is to be held in Florence in the spring of 1925. It will be open to all who issue books as well as to printers, authors, scientific societies and literary institutes. The fair will be arranged by nations and books may be sold.

In addition to the exhibits of books, there will be an exhibition illustrating the progress of the Italian periodical press and international exhibits of graphic machinery and the various schools of typography and book production.

Criticism of the American display at the first International book fair was rather severe because of the meager exhibit that was made. American publishers were accused of having a purely mercenary attitude, with no thought to the furtherance of artistic endeavor in the abstract. "The practical viewpoint outweighed the artistic and national pride of production had no existence."

It is altogether probable that the American publishers' side of the story was that a large factor in the causes that limited the American display was lack of coöperation on the part of the fair management and the exorbitant pecuniary demands made by the management.

Anyone interested in the second Book fair may obtain information concerning it from the office of the management, No. 20 Via Cavour, Florence.

Peace, happiness, joy—these are degrees of the same state and change about into one another. They have nothing to do with pleasures, which in this life are always alternating with pains. They exist in the heart-life and are not affected by externals.—*The New Way*.

The Mind, while higher and more subtle than the body, is yet only an instrument used by the Soul in gaining experience, just in the same way as an astronomer uses his telescope for acquiring information respecting the heavens.—*W. Q. Judge*.

Department of School Libraries**Fugitive Material: How to Save and Make It Available¹**

Frank K. Walter, librarian, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

One of the certain surface signs of the unity of library work and the lasting character of many of its phases, is the frequency with which certain topics appear on library conference programs. If references to all of the published articles on the library use of fugitive and ephemeral publications were collected, the result would be a rather large bibliography.

The recurrence of this topic is less due to changes in its importance or to changed methods of making it effective than to the fact it is important in every type of library. The kaleidoscopic changes in social and political conditions bring with them an avalanche of printed matter, some of it of great value, some of it merely literary debris. The percentage of valuable matter is so great that no one can safely omit as careful an examination as time permits of as much of the whole mass as comes to his attention.

There are several viewpoints the collector of fugitive material may have: 1) He may collect for the benefit of posterity, keeping in mind both the permanent value of individual items and the cumulative value of a fairly complete collection. The collection of this type is usually successful in proportion to the consistency with which he confines himself to a definite subject or a definite limited field. 2) He may collect to supply deficiencies in a working collection or to get material more recent than is obtainable in books or even in the more leisurely periodicals. The collector of this type will roam over the entire field represented by his library and will pick up only such things as seem of definite use to him. He will constantly check up his collection, will put into shape for permanent preservation the material which

experience or intuition shows to be of permanent value and will relentlessly weed out the superseded, the obsolete and the otherwise useless.

It is obvious that the school collection must almost necessarily be of this latter type. The school library is essentially and (at least under present educational and economic conditions) unavoidably a working library. There is no room for large accumulations of material and little opportunity for use given in the modern curriculum, dominated as it is by the graph, the IQ and the questionnaire, for anything which cannot be directly related either to class-room projects or the paper or thesis by which the teacher or the educationist (in those schools in which both types flourish) illumines the darkness of her local environment or calls down on her head the lightning of an offer of a better paid position.

Two things at once force themselves to the front whenever a collection of this kind is started: the selection of the material and its mechanical preparation for use. I am old-fashioned enough to think that quality is the more important and that a useful pamphlet or clipping file is unlikely unless prepared by some one with educational background and intelligent comprehension of the information to be furnished by the file. I recall one clippings file, in a public library, prepared in anticipation of an expected survey. It was culled from standard magazines, neatly mounted on manila sheets of uniform size, subject-headed by *Readers' Guide* headings and very ostentatiously housed in shiny new vertical files at the end of the delivery desk. Aside from the fact that much of it duplicated material in bound magazines on the shelves, that much was culled from unbound numbers which had lain unused for years in the basement, and that even the compilers could suggest no probable use for the greater part of it, it was an excellent file, conformable in nearly every way with the most approved mechanical standards.

¹Read before meeting of School Libraries section, A. L. A. conference, Saratoga Springs, July 3.

I have seen an extremely messy, mussy and tattered file of clippings, pages torn from books, folded pamphlets and manuscript notes, jammed into bulky envelopes in the morgue of a great metropolitan daily, which violated every law of house-keeping, but which was the basis of editorials and special articles which brought the paper a national reputation.

The proper course undoubtedly combines selective ability and a good knowledge of efficient office method. Special devices have been frequently described and each has had its day. The scrap-book of local items has yielded to the classified envelope. This has been followed by the vertical file with its alphabetically arranged subject heads. From this loose-leaf, scrap books on varied subjects have been assembled, separated and redistributed into the vertical file. In some files every clipping has been mounted. In others, the clippings, when small or of irregular size, have been put into classified and properly labeled envelopes. In the Girls' high school, Brooklyn, the news bulletin has been effective for many years. For small personal collections, the pamphlet box has proved useful in many cases. In every case the method has been successful if the person behind it had common sense and believed in the method she used.

It will be impossible to go into much detail on methods of saving material and making it directly available. Perhaps it will be adequate merely to outline some points and to leave their elaboration to later discussion:

1) Put some one with broad knowledge, wide interest and accurate organizing tendencies in charge of the file. If such a person is unavailable, get the best you can; be thankful for any good service you get and be patient with short-comings.

2) Get every member of the faculty interested in turning over to the file, spare magazines, pamphlets and anything else of interest in her own field. If she can be induced to mark the most useful material, a great step in advance has been taken.

3) Adopt a sensible, consistent scheme of subject headings, cross-reference liberally and get suggestions from the faculty as to terminology preferred. Even the queerest and most illogical favorites can go in as cross-references without serious injury or

even much waste of time. Keep a card list of all changed or added subjects or cross-references.

4) Look at each article twice before putting into file. When new material goes in, take out any which is really superseded. Do not confuse bulk and effectiveness.

5) Use plenty of folders or envelopes, according to the depth of your poverty in supply funds. Do not accumulate or give out bulky packages. Divide them. When material is lent, make the charge specific enough to identify losses. Call in overdue material.

6) Have the file near the books and do not hesitate to advertise choice additions to it (e. g., notable railroad guide-books, road maps, pamphlets on vocations, etc.).

7) Keep a date file of questions asked and answered. Put it on cards large enough to include several entries. This can very profitably be consolidated with the general slip reference file which every good reference librarian keeps.

8) Try, if possible, to put some one in charge who will stay in the school more than one year. There is little profit in having an interested person collect a file and then leave it the next year to take flight thru the acquisitive habits of careless students and faculty or to become obsolete thru indifference. Rabbits and grasshoppers progress by hops, but an information file can neither be made nor kept effective by any such means.

Of all these points, it seems to me that intelligence in selection and continuity of service are the most important. Intelligence is fairly common, but, until school policy becomes more consistent and continuous, it is likely that well-selected and much-used information will be the exception rather than the general rule.

Essentials in the Instruction in the Use of Books and Libraries¹

Helen A. Ganser, librarian, State normal school, Millersville, Pa.

As you read this topic, I wonder if it seems unsatisfactory to you that discussion should be limited to a consideration of the *essentials* of library instruction. Especially, if it be your good fortune to have at your command ample time for a thorough course on the use of books and libraries, you may think it rather uninspiring that we should apparently be content to discuss those points which are merely the foundation stones of the ideal struc-

¹Read before School Libraries section, A. L. A. conference, Saratoga Springs, July 2.

ture. If that is the case, let me tell you that the strongest conviction that has grown from my normal school experience is the opinion that the paramount duty of the school library is to teach the use of books and libraries, and with genuine enthusiasm I could discuss the possibilities of that instruction.

But I know that the person who planned this program had in mind the thought of the struggle on the part of many normal school librarians to secure sufficient time allotment for their teaching. She no doubt thought of some schools which allow practically no time, of others where the lessons given are too few to properly equip the student with this information that adds so much to his efficiency, and even of others once giving this work most creditably but now having abandoned it. It was probably her idea that in conference here we might arrive at certain conclusions which might become the basis of an attempt to establish this instruction adequately and permanently in every normal school in the country. And so, looking at this aspect of the matter, I think you will agree that we should begin with fundamentals.

First of all, ought not all librarians undertaking work in a normal school be armed with the specific knowledge of what the essentials are? I believe that it would make a strong impression on the normal school work of the country if every librarian to be appointed to such a position should in her training acquire a full understanding of the need of this instruction and a thorough knowledge of its essentials. However, to whom but to those already engaged in the work can the library schools look for information on this subject? And that is another reason beside the one of mutual helpfulness that I think it is important for us here to consider the essentials.

Moreover, I believe the general situation would be improved if the A. L. A. and the N. E. A. would unite in the publication of a minimum course for use in all normal schools. Certainly the difficulty experienced by many librarians in establishing this work must be the result of a lack of information on the part of

the powers that be as to its nature and value. A nationally endorsed syllabus would be of great assistance in this particular.

There has, of course, been much progress in this field of normal school instruction. My own experience covers 13 years and in that time I have seen a steadily growing interest in the subject, due chiefly to the efforts of individual librarians and the coöperation of progressive schoolmen. But for this very reason the continuance of the work in any particular school is frequently uncertain and the great need is to have it standardized in the state courses of study.

Such a syllabus has been prepared for the normal schools of Pennsylvania and has been in use during the past year. It has not yet been possible to have it given in its entirety in all the schools but the librarians at a recent conference endorsed the course and recommended that adequate time be provided for teaching it, and the matter is now under consideration by the Board of principals. The course is planned to cover 18 hours, six more than the 12 lessons which are the minimum requirement of the "measuring stick for normal school libraries." But even with 18 hours available, we find that it requires very careful use of the periods to open up the library resources to the student in a satisfactory manner. It was thought that a consideration of the Pennsylvania course might bring forth a suggestive discussion and to that end I shall briefly summarize the main points. The topics for the 18 lessons in the order given are as follows: 1) Resources of school and public libraries, state and national libraries; 2) Principles of Decimal classification; 3) Card catalog; 4) Care of books; 5) Parts of a book; 6) Periodicals; 7) Periodical indexes; 8-13) Reference books; 14-16) The school library; 17) Review; 18) Written examination. It will be noted that we do not begin, as is frequently done, with the individual book but, as in the Newark course, we follow the introductory talk with the lessons on the classification and the card catalog. We do that because the immediate need of the student upon

entering school makes it expedient that he learn as soon as possible how to locate material for study and recreational purposes.

Lessons 14, 15 and 16, on the school library, are planned to give "prospective teachers information about the administration of a school library that will be of especial benefit in a school without a trained librarian." We realize that these lessons could be given more effectively in the senior year but as no provision is made for them at that time, it seems advisable to include them in this course, given in the first semester of the junior year.

For each lesson in the syllabus, the committee that prepared it suggested at least one type of outside assignment as it was desired to lay especial emphasis upon the importance of practice work. It is true that it requires a great deal of time to revise problems and check up records but without the laboratory experience the value of the course is very appreciably lowered.

It was recommended that a text-book be used as a basis for the course to save the time otherwise consumed by the dictation and copying of notes. For a course of this length, Ward's *Practical use of books and libraries*, though elementary in nature, appears to be the most satisfactory work.

The Reading Curve¹

It is little short of criminal negligence to restrict a junior high-school library wholly to the supplementary and accessory aids essential to instructional purposes of the class-room. The junior high-school library should be a rich storehouse of juvenile fiction, biography, travel, vocations, of all literature which is written for youth. The junior high-school library, therefore, is secondarily a reference or instructional supplementary agency and primarily a circulating agency of juvenile literature. It should be principally an agency to distribute books which pupils personally select without prescription and secondarily an agency to administer acces-

sory aids which pupils use under teacher direction. In other words, the junior high-school library should be the environment which, above all others, early adolescent girls and boys voluntarily seek in their school life. It cannot serve as such an environment unless it contains those resources which early adolescents choose of their own volition.

Library statistics prove, I believe, that the height of the curve of reading is reached at 13 and 14 years of age, which synchronizes with the junior high school. Repeatedly I have observed that by far the greatest proportion of children who frequent voluntarily the school and public libraries are early adolescents.

Books for the high-school library, a preliminary edition of what is intended to be a list of standard books for high-school libraries, prepared by a joint committee of the School library department of the N. E. A. and the School libraries section of the A. L. A., has been issued by the A. L. A. The books in the list are grouped under Decimal classification subject numbers and a very complete index makes use of the volume of great value to those whose business it is to choose books for high-school libraries.

The June issue of *University High-School Journal*, published by the University of California, has three articles which contain helpful material for school libraries: Fugitive material for teaching, Mechanics of the book project, and Designing the book cover. The first two articles are by Helen L. Price, librarian of the U. H. S., Oakland, formerly well-known in Illinois library circles.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES for July, 1924, contains much interesting material relating to children's books which ought to be helpful in planning for Children's book week.

An old colored woman the other day asked what we "worked at." When told that we worked in a library, she said, with a very broad smile, "That's nice, honey, it's so easy on the mind."—*The Library Log*.

¹From *Place of the library in junior high schools*, read by James N. Glass, director of junior high schools, Pennsylvania, at A. L. A.

News from the Field East

Jean E. Cameron, Pratt '16, has joined the staff of the Public library, Quincy, Mass.

Annina De Angelis, Pratt '20, has been appointed high-school librarian, Stamford, Conn.

Lavina Stewart, Wash. '13, has become librarian of Connecticut college, New London.

Ethel Garey, Simmons '18, was married to Philip Martin, October 1, at Thetford, Vt.

Helen Geddes, Simmons '07, has joined the cataloging staff of the Harvard University library.

Martha Barrow, Simmons '22, was married, September 25, to Kenneth Elledge, at Bourne, Mass.

Esther M. Stone, Simmons '19, was married, September 6, to Clifford Goddard Bond, at Ludlow, Vt.

Alice M. Kirkpatrick, N. Y. S. '23-24, has been appointed assistant at the New Britain Institute free library, New Britain, Conn.

Grace H. Hoysradt, Pratt '20, assistant librarian, Public library, Madison, N. J., has been appointed librarian of the Pequot library, Southport, Conn.

Mary Royce Crawford, Pratt '21, and Florence I. Griffith, Pratt '15, formerly of the Connecticut college library, have opened a bookshop in New London, Conn.

In his annual report for 1923-24, Hiller C. Wellman, librarian, City Library Association, Springfield, Mass., states that "the most satisfactory of recent developments is the increasing intimacy in the relations of the library with many societies and organizations having similar interests." For reference and study by such groups, 2600 volumes have been set aside. A continuous series of exhibits during the year has done much to attract to the library those not seeking books. The library's collection of phonograph records has been in constant use, the 238 records having circulated 7617 times. From a stock of 306,592v., the circulation for the year reached 1,257,-

093, a seven per cent increase over the preceding year. Books on education showed the largest gain in circulation, 31 per cent, with a marked increase in the demand for religious books. More deposits of books have been maintained than for many years. In addition to 445 school-room deposits, there are 42 other places in the city where collections of library books are available. Various methods have been followed during the year to let the public know what the library has to offer. Each Monday night, a ten-minute radio talk about new books is given by the head of the circulation department. The year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the library's training class.

Central Atlantic

Margaret Brewer, Simmons '18, is now librarian of the Public library, Oswego, N. Y.

Jean Wilson, N. Y. P. L. '23-24, has been appointed librarian of a high school in Erie, Pa.

Jane Blatchley, Pratt '22, has been made assistant librarian, Public library, Madison, N. J.

Margaret Waller, Simmons '07, has joined the staff of the Pennsylvania State College library as a cataloger.

Helen S. Carpenter, N. Y. S. '10-11, has been appointed librarian, Julia Richmond high school, New York.

Barbara Keith, Simmons '16, has returned to the Public library, Utica, N. Y., after an absence of a year and a half.

Mrs Rachel Rhoades Anderson, Pratt '11, has been made assistant librarian, Manual Training high school, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ruth Wellman, Pratt '18, who was granted a year's leave of absence, has returned to the New York public library as head of the Extension division.

Mary Elizabeth McCoy, Simmons '23, was married to Sumner Hayward, October 1, at East Orange, N. J.

Hilda C. Laird, Pratt '19, formerly head cataloger, library of the League of Nations, has been made head cataloger at the State library, Albany, N. Y.

Bertha Bassam, Pratt '23, assistant in the catalog department, Princeton University library, has been made reviser and classifier at Columbia University library.

Martha L. Johnson, Pratt '24, is taking the course in children's work at the Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y., and is working in the Brownsville children's branch.

Mary E. Robbins, N. Y. S. '92, has joined the staff of the Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh, as instructor in cataloging and subject headings.

Edith M. Clement, N. Y. S. '13, formerly reference librarian, Ohio Wesleyan university, is doing organizing work. At present she is at the Public library, Utica, N. Y.

R. Loring Dunn, N. Y. S. '15-16, resigned as librarian of the Graduates Fine Arts reading room, University of Michigan library, to accept the curatorship of the Albany Institute and Art society, Albany, N. Y.

Ethel C. Trudeau, Pratt '22, formerly assistant in the Brownsville children's branch of the Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y., has been appointed senior assistant in the circulation department, Free public library, East Orange, N. J.

Mrs Marion Rust Trilling, Simmons '20, who has been in charge for the summer of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden library, Brooklyn, N. Y., has taken a permanent position as library assistant at the library of the Rockefeller Institute for medical research, New York.

Mary Burnham, formerly on the staff of Public library, Buffalo, N. Y., and recently librarian, Buffalo society of natural sciences, has resigned to become editor of the *Cumulative Book Index*, an H. W. Wilson publication. Eleanor Hawkins, Miss Burnham's predecessor, resigned to make a world tour.

The Public library, Rutherford, N. J., celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of its service, October 6. Two years after its establishment in 1894, the library was presented with a building and its growth since has been most gratifying. In 1894 the library had 784v., 400 borrowers and a circulation of 5436. It now records

12,112v., 3500 borrowers and a circulation of 57,879.

The following appointments to the staff of the Pennsylvania state library, have recently been made: Edith H. John, N. Y. L. S. '24, consulting librarian, Library Extension division; Jane H. Brown, Atlanta '12, librarian, Traveling libraries; Jane H. Patterson, Drexel '24, assistant cataloger, General library; Jessica C. Ferguson, genealogical research librarian, Archives and History section.

William Lee Corbin, for three years head of the English department, Boston university, and for 16 years previous in the English department of Wells college, Aurora, N. Y., has been appointed librarian of the Smithsonian Institution. Mr Corbin will have supervision of all the library material belonging to the Institution, much of which is scattered throughout various libraries in the District of Columbia.

The library of Norristown, Pa., has recently celebrated its one hundred and thirtieth anniversary. Founded in 1794, five years before the advent in the county of either post office or newspaper, the library has for more than a century and a quarter stood as a vital factor in educational circles of the town and has accumulated a rare and valuable collection of material. With 500 subscribers and the number constantly growing, plans are developing to "sell the library" as widely as possible. The reference library is free but a nominal charge is made to subscribers for maintenance.

Central

Antoinette Quinn, Pratt '21, has been made school librarian at Gary, Ind.

Mrs Harriet Hornsby has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Litchfield, Ill.

Marcia Herridge, Simmons '23, has been made librarian of the Public library, Bellevue, O.

Mary C. Venn, N. Y. P. L. '20-21, has been appointed acting reference librarian, Oberlin College library, Oberlin, O.

Lilian Sabin, Pratt '18, has received the appointment of school librarian at Bexley, O.

Lois M. Fawcett, Pratt '24, has been made assistant librarian, Teachers' college, Mankato, Minn.

Elizabeth M. Sawyer, Pratt '14, of the Public library, Cleveland, O., was married, June 20, to James B. Harrington.

Anna Grace Kauffman and Lela Covert, both W. R. '24, have joined the staff of the Public library, Elkhart, Ind.

Mrs Elizabeth Chapman, Simmons '22, has resigned her position at the Public library, Fort Wayne, Ind., on account of ill health.

Elda M. Laurson has resigned as librarian of the Public library, Mitchell, S. D., to join the staff of the Public library, Detroit, Mich.

Hazel Warren, N. Y. S., has joined the staff of the Indiana public library commission, Indianapolis, as assistant organizer.

Marion B. Whiting, Pratt '24, has been engaged as children's librarian at the Pillsbury branch, Minneapolis public library.

Anna M. Beechwood, Pratt '24, has been appointed first assistant in the Brooklyn branch of the Public library, Cleveland, O.

Virginia C. Heston, Pratt '23, formerly head of the circulation department, Public library, Waterloo, Ia., has been appointed librarian at Crookston, Minn.

Orlando C. Davis, for nearly two years librarian at East Chicago, Ind., has resigned to accept a similar position in Hammond, Ind.

Dorothy Teare, Ill. '23-24, has been appointed assistant in charge of the Butman-Fish memorial library, Saginaw, Mich.

Hazel B. Warren, N. Y. S. '18-19, has resigned as reference librarian at the Public library, Roanoke, Va., to join the staff of organizers of the Indiana public library commission.

Elva E. Rulon, formerly cataloger, South Dakota State University library, Vermilion, has accepted a similar position in the library of the University of Cincinnati.

Cecile Evans, Pratt '23, assistant at Winona teachers' college for the past year, has resigned to become assistant librarian and professor of library science at the Indiana State normal school, Terre Haute.

Leila B. Wilcox, formerly of the Public library of Fort Wayne and Allen county, Indiana, has succeeded Constant Bement as librarian of the Public library, Port Huron, Mich. Miss Bement has been appointed head of the Extension division, Michigan state library, Lansing.

The new library building of the Western state normal school, Kalamazoo, Mich., recently erected at a cost of \$250,000, fills a long felt need of that institution. The structure, three stories, contains a reading room that will accommodate 300 students and a lecture room seating 250. The second floor will be used as an art hall, where a number of old masters, gifts of A. M. Todd of Kalamazoo, will be hung.

Increased activity in practically every branch of the library's service is noted in the 1923-24 report of the Public library, Des Moines, Iowa. The opening of the sixth branch library and the starting of four new agencies during the year are evidences of the library's effort to reach the goal of "library books within walking distance of every home," although lack of sufficient appropriation makes it impossible to meet adequately the growing demands for extension of service. A comparison of circulation figures for the past five years shows the rapid growth in the use of the library, 734,657 v. being lent for home use in 1923-24, an average of five books for each resident. In a population of 145,000, 29 per cent or 42,126 are patrons of the library. The children's department shows a marked increase in the reading of more and better books.

South

Delia Nicholson, N. Y. P. L. '16-17, '19-20, has been appointed librarian of the U. S. naval hospital, Paris Island, S. C.

Mrs Louise Harris Carmichael, Pratt '18, has been appointed librarian of the

new Forest Park high school, Baltimore, Md.

Mary L. Deaver, Ill. '21-22, formerly librarian, Normal school, Mayville, N. D., has joined the staff of the Public library, Orlando, Fla.

Mrs Nellie McCreary De Laughter, N. Y. S. '94, formerly of the Public library, St. Louis, Mo., has been appointed cataloger at the Flagler memorial library, Miami, Fla.

Emma Moore Williams, for many years librarian of the Public library, St. Petersburg, Fla., has resigned her position because of ill health. She is succeeded by Mary Bright, assistant librarian.

In his recent report, George T. Settle, librarian, Free public library, Louisville, Ky., states that steps have been taken toward organizing a library school as a department of the library. Need of larger appropriation for salaries is also stressed. Among the important gifts received by the library the past year is a bronze statue of Lincoln by Barnard. Books in the library, 248,037; borrowers, 57,640; circulation, 1,214,882v.

The annual report of the Public library, Chattanooga, Tenn., for the year ending September 30, gives the following: Books in the library, 74,144; books lent for home use, 261,753; fiction 75 per cent of the total circulation; population, 131,832; registered borrowers, 26,649; circulation per capita, 56 per cent; total number of agencies, 102; staff, library service, 24; income, \$33,189; expenditures—library service salaries, \$17,446; books, \$5516; periodicals, \$841.

A public library was opened in Richmond, Va., October 13. The occasion was made as impressive as possible and more than 8000 persons passed through the doors of the library on dedication day. The library is housed in an old-time mansion which is fitted throughout to serve the particular community which supports it. The press of the city has given wide publicity to the new library and Thomas P. Ayer, the librarian, starts his new work with both the interest and approval of his community.

West

Leah O. Roys, N. Y. S. '21-22, formerly high-school librarian, Ann Arbor, Mich., has gone to the University of Utah as cataloger.

Louise McNeal, Pratt '23, secretary of the Kansas Traveling Libraries commission, has become assistant librarian, Kansas state library, Topeka.

Mrs Sara Judd Greenman, for 22 years librarian of the Public library, Kansas City, Kan., has resigned and will retire, making her home in California with a daughter. Her successor is Mrs Thomas McMann.

The new library building of the University of Kansas, at Lawrence, recently dedicated, has been named Watson hall in honor of Miss Carrie M. Watson, librarian emerita of the university. Miss Watson has been librarian since 1887 and before that time was connected with the library force.

The annual report of the Public library, Denver, Col., records the following statistics: Home circulation 1,305,626v.; used in reading rooms, 672,924v.; books on shelves, 243,523v.; cards in force, 69,996.

The volume of work which the library has performed has increased at an average of 15 per cent a year for several years, while the library's financial support has increased about seven per cent annually. The constantly increasing strain on the library's book collection was partially eased by the Colorado Engineering council's gift of \$10,000 for new engineering books placed in the Public library, by the Colorado Scientific society's deposit of 5092 scientific books for general use and the Denver board of education's appropriation of \$5000 for new books to be used in the library's work with schools.

The public meeting rooms in the main library building were converted into reading and filing rooms because of crowded conditions, not only a loss to the public but to the library.

An especially fine bit of work was the service given by members of the order department, one of whom met the public

every afternoon during the winter and, equipped with booklists, helps in book selection, etc., gave direct personal assistance to readers. A number of lists of books for special purposes were issued.

In the reference room, 24,414 definite questions were answered. Regular classroom libraries were supplied to 350 schoolrooms; 12 of these were parochial schools. The number of schools served, including stations and branches, was 46.

Pacific Coast

Della Dunmore, Simmons '16, is now an assistant in the art department, Public library, Seattle, Wash.

Rosalie Wilson, Riverside '24, has been appointed as assistant in the Union high school, Redondo Beach, Cal.

Edith Gantt, N. Y. P. L., '16-18, has been appointed librarian of the Plumas County free library, Cal.

George Watson Cole, since 1915 director of the Huntington library, San Gabriel, Cal., has resigned.

Ruth Fleming, N. Y. P. L., '15-16, has been appointed librarian of the State teachers' college, San Francisco, Cal.

Georgia Roberts, Syracuse '17, has joined the staff of the Library Association, Portland, Ore.

Nellie P. Chapin, Riverside, has joined the staff of the University of California Medical School library, San Francisco.

Julia Crocker, Simmons '23, is to be a senior assistant in the reference department of the Public library, Tacoma, Wash.

Ruby Charlton, N. Y. S. '11-12, has joined the staff of the High-school library, Pasadena, Cal., as substitute librarian.

Chester M. Cate has been elected librarian of the Henry E. Huntington library, San Gabriel, Cal., assuming his office October 1.

Grace I. Dick, N. Y. S. '15-16, resigned her position as cataloger, Mills College library, to become librarian, Sweetwater Union high school, National City, Cal.

Margaret Bates, Pratt '24, has been appointed first assistant in the circulation

department, Library Association, Portland, Ore.

Helen E. Vogleson, N. Y. S. '03-04, has succeeded Celia Gleason as librarian of the Los Angeles county library, Los Angeles, Cal.

Mary Adams, formerly librarian, Atlantic City, Ia., has been appointed librarian, Escondido public library, San Diego County, Cal.

Zulema Kostomlatsky, N. Y. S., formerly of Public library, Portland, was married to Clayton F. Rowell at Los Angeles, Cal., September 22.

An increase on the assessed valuation of improvements in the city of Riverside, Cal., will give the library an increase of income of nearly \$4000.

Ella M. McLoney, one time librarian of the Public library, Des Moines, Ia., has been appointed assistant librarian, Public library, Marshfield, Ore.

Recent additions to the staff of the Public library, Portland, Ore., are Anne Peake, Mildred Cole, Alice Welch, Marguerite Cameron and Ella Carrick (Los Angeles); Ruth Knapp, Wisconsin, and Jeanette White, Simons.

Laura Bowles, Wash. '21, librarian, Fremont branch, Public library, Seattle, Wash., has been appointed librarian of the Green Lake branch. Doris Hopkins, Wash. '20, formerly of the Seattle staff and more recently of the New York public library, succeeds Miss Bowles at Fremont branch.

The following additions have recently been made to the staff of the Public library, Seattle, Wash.: Della Dunmore, Simmons '16, and Ariel Stephens, Los Angeles '23, reference department; Ruth Dennis, W. R. '24, Thelma Martin, W. R. '24, and Mildred O'Neal, Ill. '21-22, branch department; Martha Lucas, Wash. '23, Margaret Shotwell, Wash. '23, Ruth Russell, Wash. '24, Trotman Barrow, from Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Jean Hennessy, from Public library, Somerville, Mass., children's librarians; Agnes McMillan, from Oahu college, Honolulu, schools' division; Jessie L. Lindo, W. R. '12, cataloging staff.

Canada

Beatrice Welling, Simmons '15, has been made first reference assistant, Public library, Vancouver, B. C.

Foreign

Elizabeth Iredell, Riverside '23, has been appointed assistant in the Maui County free library, Wailuku, T. H. She sailed from Port Los Angeles, September 21.

Agnes C. Hansen, Pratt '14, head of the foreign division, Public library, Seattle, Wash., has been appointed to the staff of the American library in Paris. Rebecca W. Wright, Albany '08, formerly of the Seattle staff, will accompany Miss Hansen to Paris.

The Glasgow Corporation celebrated its 50 years of service relating to public libraries during the past summer and in commemoration issued a beautiful pamphlet of about 50 pages giving a descriptive account of the Corporation public libraries of the city. The booklet in itself is a beautiful sample of good printing well done. The contents form a most inspiring story of good library service over half a century. The illustrations of buildings, interiors and exteriors, floor plans, etc., are full of valuable suggestions. But beautiful as the booklet is, the most inspiring thing in it is the spirit with which the report is made, the measuring stick of the story being based on the usefulness which the libraries have maintained from the first when, in cramped quarters, the spirit of service still was present, down to the just pride which is shown in telling of the work of the present time.

Some statistics contained in the report are of interest: The ratable value of Glasgow is £10,480,454, while the rating powers for its libraries range from 1½d. to 3d. Number of volumes in all the libraries, 627,977; total volumes issued and consulted, 1923-24, 3,634,885; total cost of library service, 1923-24, £84,199.

The July number of the *Quarterly Guide for Readers*, issued by the Finsbury public libraries, London, contains the thirty-sixth annual report of the libraries' committee. All departments of the libraries show gratifying increase in ac-

tivity, and the circulation, 203,351v., exceeds all previous records. Books in the library, 45,525; borrowers' cards in force, 8866. The music collection, one of the most comprehensive public collections in London, is being yearly increased to supply constantly growing demands. The collection of local prints, portraits, etc., contains 6000 items and 827v., the collection being greatly enriched by the recent purchase of 980 historical items.

The Quarterly Guide for Readers, which was suspended in 1918, was revived last April and has been the means of stimulating a higher grade of reading since it brings to the note of the public new books in all classes of literature.

The report of the Czechoslovak Bibliographic Institute, Prague, for 1923 records 1724v. in the reference department. The entire library has been classified. The card catalog is divided into three parts—systematic catalog, general, alphabetic, of Czech literature, and a catalog of periodicals, translations, indexes, etc. Of the total number of catalog cards, 169,472, 87,237 are L. C. cards. The library staff numbers seven persons, five of whom are women.

Wanted—Children's librarian. Salary \$1200-\$1500, according to qualifications of applicant. Public library, Bay City, Mich.

For Sale—Dewey's decimal classificational and relativ index, Ed. 10, 1919. Make offer to Librarian, Public library, Santa Fe, N. M.

Wanted—The City library, Springfield, Mass., urgently desires, for use in school classes, an extra copy of the *Readers' Guide* cumulative volume for 1921, bound or unbound, and will be grateful for any offer.

Wanted—Central loan desk head, 30-40, with experience in directing work of five or six assistants to secure greatest results, least waste, best spirit among staff and best service to borrowers. Ability and personality rated above training. Youngstown public library.